

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING GUSTAVO I. PEREA

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bucks County resident Gustavo I. Perea, the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce 2008 Business Person of the Year.

Mr. Perea is a living example of the American Dream. He arrived in the United States 46 years ago from Cuba, he is a graduate of Spring Garden College and he served in the United States Navy. He and his family settled in Doylestown—in Bucks County, PA—and he has worked for Adams-Bickel Associates, one of the largest construction firms in the Philadelphia area. Today, he serves as Chief Operating Officer for Adams-Bickel.

Mr. Perea's accomplishments don't stop with his professional career. He is a true community leader, serving on the Doylestown Borough Planning Commission, the Doylestown Borough Building Code Committee and the Bucks County Historical Society Grounds and Building Committee. His more recent community work includes his involvement with the Bucks Mont Katrina Relief Project, a community organization helping flood victims in Hancock County, Mississippi.

Madam Speaker, Gustavo I. Perea is an extraordinary example of the American Dream come true. His passion for his profession and his tireless community involvement are shining examples. His work, both professionally and in the community is inspiring, and I am honored to recognize him for his many accomplishments and contributions.

IN HONOR OF MR. GREGORY
"DON" HUNSUCKER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the distinguished career of Gregory "Don" Hunsucker. After decades of dedication to the United Food and Commercial Workers Union, Don decided to retire this past August.

Don's career in the labor movement began over 3 decades ago with the Retail Clerks International Association as a special representative and organizer. He joined the United Food and Commercial Workers Union, local 1288 in 1973 as a Union Representative and rose quickly within the organization to become president and chief executive officer in 1977.

The labor community in California's San Joaquin Valley has benefited immensely from

Don's leadership. While he was president and chief executive officer of the union, local 1288 represented over 11,000 United Food and Commercial Workers in Fresno, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, and Tulare Counties.

Presently, Don continues to be heavily involved in various local and statewide labor organizations. Some of these positions include president of the Western States Council of United Food and Commercial Workers Union, chair of the Northern California Caucus of UFCW, and chief executive officer of the Valley Economic Leadership Institute. He has also served on many civic and charitable boards.

Throughout his distinguished career, Gregory "Don" Hunsucker has proven to be a highly effective leader committed to excellence in his work and service to others. As he celebrates this milestone in his life and gets ready to spend more time with his wife Linda, I wish him good health and best wishes for the future.

RECOGNIZING JAKOB GREGORY-
STRAMIELLO OF SPRING HILL,
FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding young leader, Jakob Gregory-Stramiello, a 7th grade student at Gulf Coast Academy of Science and Technology. At 12 years old, Jakob has found a unique way to help veterans in his community and has done something that all patriotic Americans can admire; give back to the men and women who fight to preserve our rights and freedoms around the world.

This past semester, Jakob's social studies class was assigned a project inspired by the Pay It Forward Foundation. Pay it forward is a philosophy started by Catherine Ryan Hyde that claims if we help a few individuals, and they in turn help a few more individuals, pretty soon, a great many people have been helped.

Jakob was inspired by this program to take a stake in this world and change it for the better. This kind of selflessness is to be commended among young adults and is a testament to what is possible when we give children the skills and confidence they need to make a difference.

Madam Speaker, Jakob has a special place in his heart for the nation's veterans. Over the years, his family has contributed a great deal to our nation's armed forces. Both his mother and his grandfather are former service members. And for this reason, perhaps more than most, Jakob is acutely aware of the challenges faced by our returning service members.

Jakob knows that despite their limitless contributions to ensuring this nation's freedoms, veterans throughout Florida still appreciate the support of their neighbors. With the holidays right around the corner, Jakob set out to make sure he could help meet the needs of less fortunate veterans and their families.

With supplies donated by Comfort Systems Heating and Air Conditioning, and a considerable amount of time and teamwork, Jakob made angel necklaces to sell around his community. Pricing the necklaces at \$1 each, Jakob soon had enough money to make a sizable contribution to the veteran's action project of Hernando County. This veteran organization performs outstanding outreach to the veterans of Hernando County, including their drive to provide thanksgiving food baskets to local veterans who need them.

Madam Speaker, Congress should take a moment to recognize Jakob's efforts, because I believe we can all take a cue from his leadership and a lesson from his ingenuity. This remarkable young man has used the only assets at his disposal, his determination and his creativity, to provide the most he could for his fellow Americans. In doing so, Jakob Gregory-Stramiello has made a mighty difference for the veterans of Hernando County and I am grateful for his efforts.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JAMES A.
"PAPPY" DUNN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to recognize Mr. James A. "Pappy" Dunn, and his extraordinary service to our country.

Born in Georgia in 1917, James Dunn attended high school in Montgomery, AL, and graduated from Alabama State University with a degree in chemistry in 1935. During World War II, from 1942 to 1945 he served our Nation in uniform along with Allied Forces in Europe. After returning from the war, he served as a coach and principal of the Calhoun County Training School, at which he served for 47 years. In 1987, Mr. Dunn became the first African-American elected to serve as a Calhoun County Commissioner. Since then, he has established himself as a community leader dedicated to working tirelessly for the people of Calhoun County, AL.

On December 7, Mr. Dunn and his family and friends will celebrate his 90th birthday. On behalf of so many of us across east Alabama, I thank Mr. Dunn for his lifetime of service to our community and our Nation, and wish him all the best at this important milestone in his life.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING ALEXANDER MALLONEE OF SONOMA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alexander Mallonee on the occasion of his retirement as Secretary-Treasurer of the North Bay Labor Council, AFL-CIO, President of the National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 183, and letter carrier for the United States Postal Service. Alex has honorably served his community for 30 years.

Mr. Mallonee's career in public service began in 1977 when he became a letter carrier and was immediately active in the union. He ascended to the presidency of Branch 183 in 1980 and became known as a highly approachable, dedicated, and principled leader. In a position that can often lend itself to conflict and acrimony, Alex firmly stood up for the rights of his members while maintaining a strong, civil dialogue with management. According to his colleagues, Alex even educated management on many social justice issues.

Mr. Mallonee's stellar work with the Letter Carriers earned him the position of Secretary-Treasurer of the North Bay Labor Council, AFL-CIO, representing member unions in Sonoma, Lake, Marin, and Mendocino counties. Under Alex's leadership, the Council's membership has grown to over 50 unions representing 30,000 working men and women in the North Bay.

Mr. Mallonee's coalition-building skills were essential in his role as a founding member of the Coalition for a Better Sonoma County, an endeavor that sought to unify progressive environmental, labor, and community groups under the shared principles of smart growth, environmental protection, social justice, and affordable housing. Alex's gift for bringing people together has resulted in a vibrant progressive movement in Sonoma County.

Mr. Mallonee's legacy will be felt long after his retirement. He is a one of a kind leader who is well-respected by the business community as well as the progressive community. He is leaving the labor movement markedly better than he found it, which is a testament to his strength of convictions and quality of character.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize Alexander Mallonee for his many years of public service to the Northern Bay area of California, and to thank him for his many contributions on behalf of working men and women everywhere. We wish him the best as he enters this new phase of his life.

**TRIBUTE TO ASTRONAUT
BARBARA MORGAN**

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, with great appreciation I rise today to honor an inspiring educator turned astronaut, Barbara Morgan, who has spent her distinguished ca-

reer ensuring our children have the knowledge and experience to fulfill their dreams. I also rise today, Madam Speaker, to thank Barbara for visiting my district to share her inspiring story and experience with local students.

This past August, Astronaut Barbara Morgan became the first teacher to complete a mission in space. While Barbara had to wait 21 years for her trip on the *Endeavour*, she completed the legacy of teacher Christa McAuliffe, who was tragically killed in the 1986 explosion of shuttle *Challenger*, by holding education sessions in orbit for students.

As Christa McAuliffe's backup for the NASA Teacher in Space Program, Barbara witnessed firsthand the tragic *Challenger* explosion. After the explosion, Barbara returned to teaching in Idaho, but in 1998 was drawn back to NASA and trained to become an astronaut and an integral part of shuttle missions. She has logged over 305 hours in space and completed her first space flight in August 2007 as a mission specialist on the crew of *Endeavour*.

Holding the first in-orbit classroom for students aboard *Endeavour*, Barbara said her 2 careers were very similar, saying in both roles, you "explore, discover and share." In these roles, Barbara has not only made a significant impact on space exploration, but she also serves as a positive role model for students. Growing up in Fresno, California, Barbara graduated with distinction from Stanford University and started teaching on the Flathead Indian reservation at Arlee Elementary School in Arlee, Montana. Most recently, Barbara taught second, third, and fourth grades at McCall-Donnelly Elementary School in Idaho.

Throughout Barbara's life, she has set an example for others to follow. Her courage and dedication to education serves as an example for us all, especially our students. It is because of teachers like Barbara that our students have the inspiration to follow their dreams.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of her tremendous service to our children and our Nation as an educator and astronaut, I ask that this honorable body join me in honoring Barbara Morgan.

**TRIBUTE TO SISTER FRANCESCA
ONLEY**

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an exceptional educator and leader in the Northeast Philadelphia community. Sister Francesca Onley has been the guiding hand at Holy Family University, a fully accredited Catholic University in Northeast Philadelphia, for 25 years. Holy Family University celebrated Sister Francesca's year tenure on Thursday, November 29, 2007, at a Silver Anniversary event, with the proceeds designated to establish an endowed scholarship in her honor.

Under Sister Francesca's leadership, Holy Family attained university status, created an endowment where there was none, added 2 additional campuses, and substantially increased the number of full-time students. More recently, under Sister Francesca's direction, the University completed an education tech-

nology building, housing some of the latest technologies for preparing future teachers, including adaptive technology to help integrate disabled students into the regular classroom.

Sister Francesca recently accepted the invitation of the University's Board of Directors to continue as President through 2011. She attributes her success to the fact that she relies upon simple rules of leadership about economy, timely goals and delivering what you say you will deliver, on time! As a Sister of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Sister Francesca does not receive a salary for her work as university president.

Sister Francesca Onley grew up in the Mayfair section of Philadelphia, not far from the Holy Family campus. She graduated from Nazareth Academy High School, later becoming its principal. She earned her bachelor's degree in education and business, as well as a doctorate in higher education administration from Holy Family.

Sister Francesca serves as chairperson of the International Association of University Professors—UN Commission on Disarmament Education, Conflict Resolution and Peace. That organization's mission is to institutionalize peace education in universities around the world.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sister Francesca Onley for her years of service to Holy Family University, her devotion to education and innovation, and her efforts to promote peace.

**IN HONOR OF CONGRESSMAN JACK
BRINKLEY**

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor former Congressman Jack Brinkley, who was recently honored by the Muscogee County Democratic party with the creation of the Jack T. Brinkley Service Award.

From his humble beginnings in the community of Faceville, GA, where he and his three sisters were raised by a single mother, Pauline Brinkley, who worked as a lunchroom supervisor in Decatur County schools, Jack Brinkley went on to become a distinguished attorney, State Representative, and U.S. Representative for the third district of Georgia. Jack was quoted recently saying "Our mother always held her head up high and worked hard." Jack also learned to work hard and developed a work ethic that has followed him throughout his life.

After high school, Jack went from southwest to north Georgia where he attended Young Harris College with two other future luminaries of public service: Former Congressman Ed Jenkins and former Lt. Governor, Governor, and Senator Zell Miller. There must have been something in the water at Young Harris, because it truly nourished the seed of service in its students.

Graduating from Young Harris, Jack became a teacher for 2 years, joined the Air Force as a pilot during the Korean Conflict, and returned to receive his law degree at the University of Georgia under the GI Bill. During the same year, he met and married the former

Lois Kite of Phenix City, AL, and eventually moved to Columbus in 1964 to start his law practice.

Shortly thereafter, he was elected to the Georgia House, and 2 years later he was elected to Congress from the third district, eventually serving the second longest term of any third-district Congressman since the Civil War. When he retired, he was the senior member of the Georgia House Delegation and a prominent member of the Armed Services and Veteran Affairs Committees, providing much-needed support to Fort Benning, the Robins Air Force Base, and the thousands of veterans in the area. His constituent services were without equal.

When Jack campaigned, he promised to "remember who I am; where I'm from, and who sent me." He believed in the Christian principles of friendship, made it a point to remember names, heal misunderstandings, and never miss opportunities to express congratulations or sympathy. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to know the Honorable Jack Brinkley, and I commend and thank him for his many years of public service.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CATHEDRAL SQUARE HOMELESS PROGRAM

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the staff and volunteers of the Cathedral Square Homeless Program and the services they provide in Sacramento. Two years ago representatives of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Cathedral St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Downtown Partnership, the California State Association of Counties, and the Pyramid Alehouse created this innovative program to help find housing for those in need. Their spirit and dedication is evident in every life they touch. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring some of Sacramento's finest citizens and this wonderful program.

In 2005, local residents, churchgoers and business leaders saw that homeless men and women were sleeping on the steps of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in downtown Sacramento. They then counted that over 60 homeless people were sleeping on the downtown streets each night and decided to take action.

To help the less fortunate, the Cathedral Square Homeless program was created. Administered by the Cathedral St. Vincent de Paul Society and partnered by the Sisters of Mercy, the California State Association of Counties, the Downtown Partnership and the Pyramid Alehouse, the program began providing homeless individuals with a bed in a warm house, clothing, bus passes, food, and necessary tools to achieve a self-sufficient life. This program is designed to allow individuals to become self-sufficient in 3 months.

The efforts of the volunteers who make this program work are truly admirable, and they have had some remarkable success stories. A particular gentleman entered into the program right after its inception in December of 2005. He had been homeless for 7 long and trying years. With the help of the Cathedral Square

Homeless Program he was able to have a steady place to live. He was given clean clothes and help with his transportation needs. That allowed him to have the stability to apply and interview for a variety of jobs. Within 3 months, he had secured a job and has been working ever since.

The Cathedral Square Homeless Program receives a great deal of support from the Sacramento community. The Sacramento Festival of Trees is a non-profit, interfaith, community-based volunteer organization that supports this program. This year, with the help of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, East Lawn Funeral Homes and Cemeteries, Sisters of Mercy, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, the Downtown Partnership, the Interfaith Services Bureau, Westfield Downtown Plaza, and Westminster Presbyterian Church, they are hosting the first Festival of Trees and Lights. Community organizations have decorated and donated artificial holiday trees, which will be displayed during the festival. Members of the community will be invited to participate in a silent auction to purchase a tree for their home, office, or as a gift. All donations and proceeds will benefit the Cathedral Square Homeless Program.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the Cathedral Square Homeless Program's unwavering commitment to the well-being of Sacramento's homeless. Over the past 2-years, their success stories have been truly inspiring. As members of the Sacramento community gather at the Festival of Trees and Lights fundraiser, I ask my colleagues to come together and honor the tireless dedication shown by the Cathedral Square Homeless Program's staff and volunteers in providing aid for those less fortunate.

TRIBUTE TO MAUREEN FESTI

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Maureen Festi of West Hartford, CT, for her outstanding achievement in the field of education. After 29 years of educating youth, Ms. Festi was honored with the 2007 Preserve America National History Teacher of the Year Award on November 16, 2007.

For the past 15 years, Ms. Festi has dedicated her life to teaching the children of Earl M. Witt Intermediate School in Stafford Springs, CT. Her dedication to her field and her passion for her students are apparent in her creative and imaginative approach to the American history curriculum. Ms. Festi has devoted her life to ensuring that her pupils do not simply memorize history, but also identify its relevance in their lives today. By extending her lessons beyond the four walls of the classroom, Ms. Festi adds contemporary meaning to a study that is focused on the past. A leader and an innovator in her field, Ms. Festi is truly deserving of this national recognition.

I ask all my colleagues to join with me and the people of Connecticut in congratulating Ms. Festi for this honor and thanking her for her continued commitment to the education of the children of Connecticut.

TRIBUTE TO MUNIR MALIK

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my former law school classmate Munir Malik, who has been detained by the Pakistani government for his support for the rule of law. I have contacted the State Department and the Embassy of Pakistan urging his immediate release and an end to martial law in Pakistan.

His brother, Saeed Malik, lives in San Jose, my home town. With unanimous consent, I'd like to submit into the record his Thursday op-ed in the San Jose Mercury News about his brother, Munir Malik, and the crisis in Pakistan.

TRIBUTE TO GLENN "TEX" BREWER

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my personal heroes: a constituent in Fayetteville, GA, who has lived a life of exciting adventures, public service and family values.

Glenn "Tex" Brewer will retire from the Fayetteville City Council at the end of this year after serving for 16 years, many of those years as mayor pro tem.

But Brewer's civic duty in his hometown ranks as merely one of a long list of public services and great deeds. He spent most of his life serving our Nation as a career officer in the U.S. Navy, retiring as a captain.

The man's career reflected the boy's dream. A 10-year-old Brewer saw a news reel about Navy deep sea divers while he was at the local theater to see "Flash Gordon" in 1938.

When Brewer joined the Navy, however, he already had a pilot's license, so he was placed on the aviation track, where he received training in aerial and ground photography. This skill would come in handy after he graduated from the Naval Academy and switched from flight training to submarines. He soon became a highly skilled deep sea diver and an innovator in underwater photography.

In fact, Brewer was the first man to dive beneath the North Pole and to take pictures of the underside of the ice block. This was part of the USS *Seadragon's* historic trip, the first to traverse the Arctic Ocean from Atlantic to the Pacific. The submarine traveled the Northwest Passage beneath the ice of the North Pole. The largest iceberg the crew encountered measured 1,500 feet long, 100 feet wide and 300 feet deep. Brewer's photos of the iceberg ran in Life Magazine, the New York Times and the Washington Post. The crew surfaced on the geographic North Pole and played a game of softball. A hit ball would travel through today, yesterday, and tomorrow in one play, Brewer said, adding that every view from home plate pointed south.

It wasn't all good times on the North Pole, however. On another occasion, Brewer and two crew mates were accidentally stranded for

6 hours on the ice without tools, communications equipment, or sufficiently warm clothing. It was, Brewer said, a "moment of truth" in a potentially fatal scenario.

For his work at the North Pole, Brewer received the Navy Commendation Medal; for being the first to dive at the North Pole, he was elected a member of the National Explorers Club, a distinction he called "one of the finest awards" he had ever won.

After many distinguished years in the Navy, Brewer capped off his career with a stint in the offices of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, where he worked as chief of one of the National Military Command and Control Centers. He called the job the most rewarding of his life. For his service there, he won the Legion of Merit and then retired from the Navy in 1976.

Inside the Navy and out, Brewer has always competed.

During one tour of duty, Brewer raced hydro planes in the Southern California Speedboat Club in the American Power Boat Association, where he won two national championship hydro plane races. He set world records in straight-away speed and competition speed and earned a spot in the Gulf Oil Marine Racing Hall of Fame.

In 1985, a hang-gliding accident left Brewer paralyzed from the waist down. The injury, however, didn't stymie his competitive spirit or work ethic. He returned to his ancestral home in Fayetteville, GA, and restored his family's antebellum farm. He also played wheelchair sports and won more than 60 medals, mostly in the National Paralyzed Veterans Wheelchair Games.

For the past 16 years, Glenn "Tex" Brewer has served the people of his city as a member of the city council. During Brewer's tenure, he has strongly advocated restoration of Fayetteville's historic buildings, and he has championed the needs of the city's seniors and its youth.

For his lifetime of service to his Nation and community, Glenn Brewer deserves the praise of this House. On behalf of Georgia's Third Congressional District, I would like to pay personal thanks to him for all of his good works and wish him health and happiness as he prepares to retire from the city council.

TRIBUTE TO MS. DIONNE LIEBL

HON. MARY FALLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and congratulate Ms. Dionne Liebl; teacher at Putnam City West High School and recent recipient of the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award.

Ms. Liebl has demonstrated what it means to be a leader to our youth and the State of Oklahoma. The task of educating young people is one of the most important responsibilities a person can assume. Her ability to give of her time and energy with dedication and enthusiasm makes her deserving of such special recognition. This award serves as a testament to the impact she has had on both her students and colleagues.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the entire House of Representatives, please join me in

congratulating Ms. Liebl on receiving this important recognition.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of overriding the President's veto of the L-HHS-Education conference report. I stand with Chairman OBEY and greatly appreciate his support of funding programs that are essential to the growth and development of the communities I represent in Oakland, California.

This bill includes funding for critical programs under the Department of Health and Human Services—programs like nurses education; the Ryan White CARE Act, and the Minority AIDS Initiative. These are all programs for which we should increase funding, as opposed to playing politics with the lives and well-being of the American people.

We are in a fundamental struggle over war vs. peace. We now conclusively know where the President's priorities lie—they are with occupying Iraq, as opposed to funding critical labor, health and education programs at home. In one stroke of a pen, the President signed the Defense funding bill, and yet in the next stroke he vetoed the LHHS funding bill.

What is the President saying to the American people when he rejects legislation that funds education programs like 21st Century Community Learning Centers, TRIO, GEAR UP and programs that strengthen Historically Black Colleges and Universities? He is saying that he does not care about the programs that our people care about—programs that we need and want to see implemented to help our communities grow. He is more concerned with occupying Iraq.

We are now spending \$12 billion a month in Iraq and yet the President is asking us to approve another \$200 billion. This is absurd! For the price of one month of our occupation of Iraq, we could be paying for 1.5 million children to go to Head Start for a whole year; we could hire 200,000 new school teachers for a year; we could have even insured 7 million of the 8.7 million children living in this country that do not have medical insurance—for a whole year.

This is a fundamental question of where our priorities lie. Would you rather we continue to waste our American tax dollars on a war without an end, or would the American people rather spend their tax dollars on our children, our schools, and in our communities? Mr. Speaker, I hope to continue our fight for our funding priorities at home, as opposed to waging war abroad. I urge my colleagues to override the President's veto.

RECOGNIZING ARLETTA MINORE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Arletta Minore as she retires from the Genesee Regional Chamber of Commerce. Arletta was honored at a dinner on November 28 in Flint, Michigan.

Arletta is a lifelong resident of Flint. She graduated from Flint Northern High School and attended Flint Junior Community College. She was married to Jack Minore and had four children, Jeffery, Eric, Steffan, and Jennifer.

She began her career arranging print ads for the Yankee Store and moved on to organizing the print ads for the Fair Store. From there Arletta moved to the Flint Journal, giving her the opportunity to work with many advertisers. She then moved to the Chamber of Commerce and has worked there for the last 19 years, eventually becoming the office manager.

Between working and her family, Arletta managed to restore her Victorian home into the Avon House Bed and Breakfast. She has operated her business since 1985. Her interests range from forming a dance troupe with friends and her daughter and performing for several small groups, to participating in the Michigan 60 Mile Cancer Walk.

Not content to sit back and rest, Arletta has already made plans to spend her retirement spending more time with her family and working with community groups like the Crim Run and the Geoffrey Midwest Workshop. Arletta plunging into a new business venture is also a possibility.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Arletta Minore for her service to the Flint area and hope that she continues her involvement in the community for many, many years to come. I wish her the best as she embarks on this new phase of her life.

TRIBUTE TO G. WARREN ELLIOT AND CHERYL S. PLUMMER

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor G. Warren Elliott and Cheryl S. Plummer, who are retiring as members of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners after 12 years of leadership. Both were honored yesterday for their longtime service to the community at a retirement ceremony in Franklin County, PA.

Both Cheryl and Warren have dedicated much of their lives to bettering the region, both as commissioners and advocates of the community. They have served Franklin County honorably, bringing about key changes to operations and programs within the county, increasing efficiency and creating and revitalizing key community initiatives. With their leadership, Franklin County has become the best economy in Pennsylvania and number 5 overall in the entire northeastern region. Their service and leadership has been fundamental

to the success of the county and the quality of life of its residents. Commissioner Elliott and Commissioner Plummer jointly received the Outstanding County Commissioner of 2007 Award.

G. Warren Elliott has served as the chairman of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners for 12 years, leading one of the most successful and efficient boards in Franklin County history. Elliott has also served on numerous boards of directors, including the Franklin County Area Development Corporation and the Franklin County Conservation District. He has received multiple civic awards, including the Penn State Centennial Fellow Award and the Commissioner of the Year for Conservation Award. He also gives back to his alma mater, Shippensburg University, by serving as an adjunct faculty member. Commissioner Elliott's accomplishments are vast, and his work for the community irreplaceable. His presence will be sorely missed as he retires from his post as chairman of the board of commissioners.

Cheryl Plummer also served as a member of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners for 12 years. She has dedicated much of her career to improving human services in the county, serving as chair of the Human Services Committee in the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania. In addition to performing her duties as a county commissioner, Plummer led multiple community organizations, dedicating time and effort to the United Way, Chambersburg Area School District, and the Greater Chambersburg Chamber of Commerce, just to name a few. She has been recognized often for her efforts, and her dedication and leadership will be missed by her colleagues and community members.

Commissioner Elliott and Commissioner Plummer deserve great thanks, as they have brought about lasting changes and improvements to Franklin County and have vastly bettered the quality of life of the entire community. While their presence will be missed, I wish them both a happy retirement, and I am sure they will continue to volunteer and inspire others to follow in their footsteps to become leaders within society.

RECOGNIZING THE EASTERN MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GROUP

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Eastern Montgomery County Emergency Management Group for their outstanding service and dedication. They provide world-class regional training symposiums, multi-jurisdictional field training exercises and specialized training in disaster management to emergency responders throughout Pennsylvania's 8th Congressional District.

Formed in 2001, in response to the tragic events of September 11, the Eastern Montgomery County Emergency Management Group has been helping the community prepare for emergencies. The group consists of emergency management officials from across our community who are committed to work to-

gether as partners on all emergency management issues and incidents. These dedicated individuals are responsible for coordinating the community's preparation for, response to, and recovery from man-made and natural disasters.

As the son of a former Philadelphia police officer, I know how hard America's emergency responders work to keep our cities and towns safe—especially in disaster situations. The Eastern Montgomery County Regional Emergency Management Group's commitment to our community is undeniable. As their representative, I am proud to be just as committed to providing them, and our other emergency management groups with the tools and resources they need to do their jobs. After all, true homeland security means supporting those who keep our families safe.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the families across Eastern Montgomery County, I want to thank the Eastern Montgomery County Emergency Management Group for their tireless and lifesaving efforts. They and other emergency management groups throughout our country need—and deserve—our continued support.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRIGADIER GENERAL (CA ARNG—RETIRED) EDWARD E. MUNGER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Retired BG Edward E. Munger who served our Nation in the California Army National Guard as well as the United States Army. A native of Fresno, General Munger is an individual who exemplifies outstanding work ethic and is certainly worthy of special recognition.

During his senior year in high school, Edward enlisted in Fresno's 185th Infantry Regiment of the California Army National Guard as a private. From there, his military career blossomed, as he progressed through staff and command positions, eventually including battalion commander of his infantry regiment.

While serving in the California National Guard, Edward owned and operated Engineered Sound, an electronics contracting business with offices in Fresno, Reno, and Las Vegas. Under his leadership, Engineered Sound landed major contracts at such landmarks as the Las Vegas Hilton, The Sands Hotel, and Caesars Palace, as well as many others in Reno and Lake Tahoe.

Various local television and radio stations have called on General Munger to comment on military operations and strategic planning. He is respected throughout the area, and remains involved in many community service organizations. Some of these organizations include: the Fresno Rotary Club, Valley Children's Hospital, and the Fresno Chamber of Commerce.

In his personal life, General Munger and his wife Tamsen have two adult children. It is both an honor and a pleasure to recognize such a great man who throughout his life has demonstrated courage and love of our country. I want to extend, on behalf of the residents of Fresno, my sincerest appreciation for his dedication and service to the country.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE DUNN HOUSE IN CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the centennial celebration of the historic Dunn House in Citrus County, FL. The current owners, Rev. Harvey and his wife Astrid Dunn, have had the Dunn House in their family since 1916. Originally constructed in 1907 as a field house and meeting place for the Florida Mutual Mining Company, the building was purchased and turned into a home by the Dunn family in 1916.

At the center of the phosphate boom in the 1890s and into the early 1900s, Citrus County was home to several mining companies, among them the Florida Mutual Mining Company. The company built what became known as the Dunn House in 1907, not as a home, but as a field office. Historical documents describe the house as a place for the owners and stockholders to go when they needed to conduct business in the area.

The field superintendent of the company's Floral City Mines was William Harvey Dunn, Rev. Harvey Dunn's grandfather. While many Dunn family members called the house a home, one of the Dunn family members born there, Hampton Dunn, became a well-known Citrus County historian and writer. A prolific author, Hampton is best known locally for his work, "Back Home, a History of Citrus County, Florida." A World War II veteran, Hampton also had careers as a reporter, author, editor, soldier, historian, preservationist and a crusader for traffic safety.

In 1973 Harvey and Astrid Dunn took over the Dunn House after a 20-year vacant period, working to rehabilitate and restore the home to its original state and beauty. Today the Dunn House is of the pride and joy of Citrus County residents, with its two-story, porch-over-porch house and eight original fireplaces. In fact, the front of the house faces an old abandoned mine road which existed long before the current Bedford Road. Therefore, visitors approach the property from the back and side of the house, not the front as you would at most other period homes.

Madam Speaker, the historic Dunn House is a venerable institution and tourist attraction in Citrus County, FL. The residents of Floral City take great pride in the home, and look forward to celebrating its centennial anniversary this year. I know that the Dunn family has spent many years preserving and restoring the Dunn House to its full glory, and I congratulate them on their commitment and effort.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. WAYNE WILLIAMS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition to a constituent of

mine, Mr. Wayne Williams, and his steadfast service to his community.

Mr. Williams has served as the fire chief of station 18 of the Ohatchee Volunteer Fire Department since 1981. His many years of service have helped further strengthen station 18 as an institution the people of Calhoun County have always relied upon to provide safety and peace of mind. On December 6, the members of station 18 will gather to honor Mr. Williams' service during their annual Christmas Dinner.

I am proud to join the members of the Ohatchee VFD in thanking Mr. Williams for his service and wish him and his family the best at this important occasion to honor his dedication and leadership.

HONORING RICHARD SCHNEIDER
OF SONOMA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Schneider, who has been recognized as the City of Sonoma's 2007 Treasure Artist of the Year. Mr. Schneider is being recognized for his contributions to Sonoma and his leadership of the Sonoma Hometown Band.

Mr. Schneider was born in Leavenworth, Kansas, but moved to northern California at a young age when his father was transferred to work at Alcatraz Federal Prison. At the end of the war, the family moved north to Fields Landing in Humboldt County, where Mr. Schneider was raised in this small town and attended the local school. In 1949, the family moved to Eureka, where he participated in a band for the first time.

After graduating from Eureka High School in 1954, Mr. Schneider joined the Navy hoping to become a member of the Navy Drum and Bugle Corps. He was accepted, but was subsequently assigned to the Naval Communications School. After completing his training, he spent 2 years in Korea and 2 years in Germany. In 1959, he left the Navy and began attending Humboldt State University, where he received a bachelor of arts degree in music in 1963.

After completing college, Mr. Schneider began teaching music in the Central Valley, first in Hanford and then as a full time teacher at three different schools in Corcoran. In 1965, he moved to Sonoma after being hired to teach at local schools. The following year, he was transferred to the high school, where he founded the high school band with strong support from Principal Max Murray.

In 1967, Mr. Schneider founded the Sonoma Hometown Band in order to provide a musical group for the 4th of July parade. The band was initially made up of 25 high school students, but has gradually expanded as former students returned to participate and members of the community joined. Today, the band gives a half-dozen performances each year, bringing together musicians of all ages under Mr. Schneider's direction. From concerts at the Sebastiani Theatre to the 4th of July, the Sonoma Hometown Band has become an important fixture in Sonoma under Mr. Schneider's leadership.

Madam Speaker, at this time it is appropriate that we congratulate Mr. Schneider for

being recognized as the City of Sonoma's 2007 Treasure Artist of the Year. As the leader of the Hometown Band, he has brought his community an exciting musical group catering to all ages, interests and skill levels.

TRIBUTE TO NASA FLIGHT
DIRECTOR MATT ABBOTT

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, with great appreciation I rise today to honor a dedicated and highly respected western New York native, Matt Abbott, for his leadership in directing the recent space shuttle mission *Endeavour*.

As lead flight director on the recent space shuttle mission *Endeavour*, Matt has proven that when you put your mind to something anything is possible. Since he can remember, Matt has dreamed of working in Mission Control. When he was 6 years old, he watched on television as Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became the first men to walk on the moon. While most of Matt's friends dreamed of becoming astronauts, Matt saw the challenge and inspiration in working behind the scenes, leading the mission.

While not physically aboard the shuttle, Matt has become one of the most important members in Mission Control, as the ultimate responsibility for decisions made during the flight lies on his shoulders.

After graduating from Texas A&M, Matt started working at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston as a Mission Control flight dynamics officer. In this position he was responsible for monitoring the location and performance of the shuttle during flight, as well as planning maneuvers. He then took a position with the Canadian Space Agency in Montreal, working with the Canadarm2 robotic arm on the International Space Station. He eventually returned to the Johnson Space Center, where he became a flight director. Matt has worked on 40 shuttle missions in flight dynamics, including 27 launches and 11 landings.

Throughout his life, Matt has been committed to pursuing his dreams. His achievements serve as an excellent example of how to make your dreams a reality, and he serves as a true role model for children across the country.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of his tremendous service, for his leadership, his dedication to our country, I ask this honorable body join me in honoring NASA flight director Matt Abbott.

TRIBUTE TO UPPER DUBLIN
TOWNSHIP

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to applaud the efforts of Upper Dublin Township to adopt environmentally conscious practices and to encourage use of alternative energy sources.

Upper Dublin Township currently relies on 100 percent clean, renewable energy for its municipal energy needs and encourages its residents to use clean energy for their homes and businesses. It was the Commonwealth's first municipality to switch to 100 percent clean energy.

Upper Dublin Township has demonstrated its commitment to protecting the quality of the quality of water, land and air resources. Efforts have included increasing reliance on renewable energy, creating community incentives to increase recycling, preserving open space, educating the community on sustainable practices, and reducing pesticide use through Integrated Pest Management. With much of its land developed, Upper Dublin Township has recognized the need to focus its environmental efforts on influencing the behavior of its residents and businesses.

Madam Speaker, Upper Dublin Township sets an example of how sustainability can work for suburban communities. Thanks to policies and programs enacted by the Board of Commissioners and the Environmental Protection Advisory Board, Upper Dublin Township is helping to move the 13th Congressional District towards greater use of renewable resources.

I am proud to represent the people of Upper Dublin Township in Congress and applaud their success in working to reduce our dependence on imported sources of energy, and create a cleaner and healthier environment for future generations. I congratulate them for their critical efforts and wish them continued success with this endeavor.

IN HONOR OF SHIRLEY SHERROD

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Shirley Sherrod, who has worked determinedly for more than 20 years as the Georgia Director of the Federation of Southern Cooperatives and Land Assistance Fund, an outstanding organization dedicated to enhancing rural communities through sustained operation of family farms.

As a part of her work, Shirley has helped to run one of the countries most successful USDA Outreach and Technical Assistance Projects, providing assistance on debt restructuring, alternating crops, marketing, financial planning, recordkeeping, and farm management to minority and disadvantaged farmers. The project has operated in four states, and seen an increase in the number of minority-owned farms in two of those states.

Shirley's leadership with the Federation of Southern Cooperatives exemplifies her lifetime of dedication to her community. Shirley's work began in 1965, where as an organizer for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), Southwest Georgia Project, she helped to start a 6000-acre land trust. She also worked with women to organize childcare and pre-school programs, and was intensely dedicated to the numerous voter registration and education projects which helped African Americans become elected officials.

A native of Newton, Georgia, Shirley received a degree in Sociology from Albany State University and later took graduate business studies at Valdosta State University. In 1989, she received a Master of Arts in Community Development from Antioch University.

As the Congressman who represents Southwest Georgia, I hold in highest regard individuals like Shirley—those tireless advocates with the courage and conviction to reach out, touch, and impact the farthest boundaries of our community. May the Second Congressional District, Georgia, and indeed the country continue to benefit from her service.

A TRIBUTE TO TINA THOMAS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Tina Thomas' years of service to the Sacramento area as a prominent attorney, philanthropist and community leader. Tina is transitioning from partner to "of counsel" at her law firm, Remy, Thomas, Moose and Manley. In doing so, Tina will now serve in an advisory capacity to the firm and have more time to assist local nonprofits. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring one of Sacramento's finest citizens.

Tina earned a bachelor's degree from Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri in 1975 and her juris doctor degree from the University of San Diego in 1979. Later that year, she came to Sacramento. Before choosing to practice law full time, Tina served on the faculties of California State University, Sacramento and the Consortium of California State Universities and Colleges where she was an associate professor teaching graduate and undergraduate courses on the law, environment and planning related subjects.

In the late 1970s, Tina began her legal career as an intern for the Environmental Unit of the California Attorney General's office, and then in 1979 she was hired by a local environmental attorney Michael Remy. Together Tina and Michael formed a law firm that is now known as Remy, Thomas, Moose and Manley, where Tina and Michael worked together as partners until he passed away in 2003. Since its founding, Tina has served as the firm's managing partner, with clients that include governmental agencies, local businesses and environmental organizations. Along with her partners, Tina co-authored the Guide to the California Environmental Quality Act in 2006, a book now utilized by attorneys state wide.

In her spare time, Tina has served on numerous nonprofit boards in the Sacramento area. This includes the La Raza Galeria Posada, the Conservancy International and the Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services. In addition, on a pro bono basis, Tina has represented many organizations including; WEAVE, Loaves and Fishes, Francis House and the WIND Center for Homeless Teens. Due to the support of generous individuals like her, programs such as these are able to continue to thrive, which in turn makes Sacramento a better place to live, work, and raise a family. For her dedication to the Sacramento community, Tina was named Sacramento County's "Distinguished Attorney" in 2005 by the Sacramento County Bar Association.

Personally, Tina has been a pleasure to work with and a true friend. Her compassion and spirit is a wonderful addition to the Sacramento community. She is a caring, smart and thoughtful individual, who always looks out for those in need and makes sure that their concerns are known by all who can help.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to my friend Tina Thomas. Tina is not only a dedicated community leader and attorney, but also is a loving mother to her children Libby, Mary Claire and Sam and wonderful wife to her husband, Bill Abbott. We all are thankful for her efforts. As Tina's colleagues, family and friends gather to honor her service, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing her continued good fortune in this new capacity.

TRIBUTE TO VERNON, CONNECTICUT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate 200 years of Vernon, Connecticut's rich history. Beginning in 2008, the Vernon community will commence a yearlong second centennial celebration, the "Countdown to 200", that will reflect on the past and welcome the future.

In the early 18th century, settlement began with families from East Windsor cultivating the land and laying groundwork for future development and eventual incorporation of Vernon in 1808. Throughout the 19th century and diminishing with the end of the World War II, textile factories would serve as the main economic lifeblood for the region, especially in Rockville, a town that would later be incorporated in Vernon. During the Civil War, these mills would produce textiles that would clothe Union soldiers.

While textiles formed the most notable industry in the region, agriculture had strong roots since settlement in the early 18th century. In 1965, agricultural and industrial communities were linked with the consolidation of the city of Rockville and Vernon.

Vernon has produced a number of notable figures, including Gene Pitney, "The Rockville Rocket" as well as four-time Super Bowl football champion, Bill Romanowski. Charles Ethan Porter, a renowned still life painter and former Virginia Governor, Mark Warner, also call Vernon their hometown.

The relics of earlier settlement and production, including the keystone arch tunnel on Tunnel Road, the Tower on Fox Hill, and the old textile mills, serve as a reminder of the versatility of our quaint New England town. Vernon and its residents have faced a number of problems that have notoriously afflicted small industrial towns. The Vernon community has weathered this adversity, and has and will continue to adapt and endure. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in celebrating two centuries of Vernon's history, and welcome many more to come.

ARTICLE BY SAEED MALIK

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I would like to enter into the RECORD this article by Saeed Malik entitled, "U.S. Can't Support Both Musharraf and Ideal of Liberty."

Today, Pakistan is gripped by an existential crisis. This crisis comes just when Pakistanis were beginning to feel optimistic. An independent judiciary was taking root and the fourth estate of the press was in ascendancy. Accountability, long overdue, had finally arrived, or so the people of Pakistan thought.

The optimism was cut short this month when the U.S. ally-in-chief, Gen. Pervez Musharraf, fearing invalidation of his recent election by the Supreme Court, dissolved the court, closed the media and jailed dissidents by the thousands.

The measured and somewhat muted reaction of the Bush administration to this barbarity is not only morally bankrupt, it is downright dangerous. The fundamentalists on one side of this war on terror cannot defeat the fundamentalists on the other. Fundamentalism in any society will only be defeated and sidelined by moderates from within. By supporting Musharraf, albeit tacitly, the United States is sidelining the very moderates who must win this war. Musharraf's occasional delivery of a wanted terrorist cannot justify suppression of the fundamental freedoms of Pakistani civil society. A society thrives when its constituents take a stake in its well-being and its decision-making process.

It has been said that terrorists hate us because of our liberty and one must be either on the side of terrorists or the side of liberty. If today we do not support the Pakistanis who seek liberty, what will they think of us? Will our government deliver on this slogan when liberty is at stake in a Muslim country? Our goals are advanced by demanding restoration of the Supreme Court. We must also demand the immediate release of all judicial activists jailed after the so-called emergency. Pakistanis must realize that America stands for the rule of law and the liberty of all people. A golden opportunity to win the hearts and minds of the Pakistani masses beckons us. Sticking to support for an increasingly unpopular dictator in Pakistan will only solidify President Bush's 9 percent favorable opinion rating in Pakistan.

Although it has been generations since the CIA deposed Iranian Prime Minister Mohammed Mossadeq and installed the Shah, and decades since our government tried to forestall the Iranian revolution, Iranians have not forgotten these travesties. International relations must be based, first, on democratic principles. Propping up Musharraf negates these principles, fueling antagonism among Pakistanis.

I have a personal stake in this sad saga. My 57-year-old brother, Muneer Malik, a Santa Clara University law school graduate, has been "detained" under "preventive measures" in Pakistan's version of Guantánamo Bay. He is reportedly critically sick and without outside contact. Muneer's crime is that as president of the Supreme Court Bar Association, he was in the forefront of the movement to assert the independence of the Pakistani judiciary. Thousands of heroic lawyers have met a similar fate. Rejecting the recent purge of the Supreme Court, 13 of the 17 judges refused to

take extraconstitutional oaths under a draconian "Provisional Order." Predictably, they were summarily dismissed and locked up. The few opportunists who obliged now preside over empty courts boycotted by an overwhelming majority of lawyers. If this takes hold, the judicial purge would amount to retaining the weeds while killing the flowers.

Pakistani citizens view the emergency proclamation as Musharraf's desperate attempt to hold on. Democratic stability requires an orderly, defined and predictable means of transferring power. Musharraf, like others in the dust-bin of Third World history, is trying to break this mandate, subjugating national interest to personal power. Does the self-professed "enlightened-moderate" appreciate the difference between Robert Mugabe and Nelson Mandela? Why, then, does he walk in Mugabe's footsteps?

Muneer, who is supported by Santa Clara's and Yale's law schools, along with the American Bar Association, said while free, "No army can stop the march of an idea whose time has come." I urge our government to be on the side of an advancing idea and on the right side of history. This is also the moral side and the right tactic in the war on terror.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
JAMES MYRON

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of James 'Jim' Myron, a resident of the First Congressional District of Tennessee, who died November 19, 2007.

James Myron was a lifelong resident of Johnson City. He was co-owner of Black Tie Formalwear and Janes's Lunch Box, two staples in downtown Johnson City.

Mr. Myron was a member of the Johnson City Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Neighborhood Association, and active throughout the community.

He was dedicated to his family. He is survived by his wife, Jane Moon Myron, who our thoughts and prayers are with during this time.

Mr. Myron enjoyed the surroundings of the First District. He was known for his love of the beautiful mountains, area lakes, and the local sports scene.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my fellow members to join me in honoring the memory of James 'Jim' Myron, a successful businessman, a true servant of the community, and a dedicated family man. He will be missed.

HONORING THE 135TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BORAX COMPANY

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. McKEON. Madam Speaker, it is with great privilege that I rise today to pay tribute to the 135th year of continuous business conducted by the Borax Company, which was celebrated on October 12, 2007. This occasion makes Borax one of the longest surviving mining firms in the United States. I am proud

that between 1993 and 2006, the national headquarters for Borax remained in Valencia, CA, in my home district.

Borax traces its roots back to 1872, when F.M. "Borax" Smith discovered Borax in Teel's Marsh, NV. Borate deposits, which are used in insulation, textile fiberglass, detergents, ceramics, plant fertilizers, flame retardants, pest control, cosmetics, medicines, and more, were also discovered in California's Death Valley.

By 1883, teams of 20 mules were used by the company to haul Borax out of the remote Death Valley 165 miles away to Mojave. Though the mule-hauling years only lasted from 1883 to 1888, the teams continue to live on as a symbol of the company's commitment to innovation.

In 2000, Borax's global operations achieved certification for excellence in environmental management. Then in 2001, the company formed partnership with Millennium Cell to develop a safe, clean fuel alternative based on sodium borohydride. This was followed by the pit-stop of the 2002 Chrysler Natrium, the world's first sodium borohydride-powered zero-emission vehicle, at the Borax Company's national headquarters.

Today, Borax employs over 1,000 people and is acknowledged as the world leader in Borate technology, research and development. Technical support for customers, product quality, and supply reliability are the pillars of the company's commercial commitment. Borax proudly reflects a respectable commitment to ensuring that practices and products are socially, environmentally, and economically sustainable.

Madam Speaker and my colleagues, I ask that you join me in honoring the 135th year of continuous business for this admirable mining company. It is a special occasion when businesses witness such good fortune resulting from the many long hours of dedicated teamwork which are given by employees for the good of the company and its customers.

RECOGNIZING MIKE ANDERSON AS
FLORIDA'S MAYOR OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Mike Anderson for his extraordinary contributions as mayor to the city of Fort Walton Beach, FL.

On November 9, 2007, Mayor Mike Anderson was selected as the 2007 Florida League of Cities Mayor of the Year. He was recognized for his "outstanding commitment and public outreach, as well as his initiative in developing innovative programs."

Mayor Anderson holds degrees from the University of Southern California, the University of Texas, and the University of West Florida. Upon graduating from USC, he joined the Air Force, which brought him to northwest Florida, where he retired in 1984. He worked with Civil Service at Eglin from 1985 to 2005 and it was during this stage in his career that he became active in the community.

He served as a city councilman for 4 years, where he served on the Okaloosa-Walton

Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) and the Northwest Florida Regional TPO. In 2005, he was elected mayor of the city of Fort Walton Beach.

Mayor Anderson is also known throughout the community for his leadership roles throughout much of northwest Florida. He is currently a member of the Florida League of Cities Home Rule Council, President of the Okaloosa County League of Cities, Government Affairs Committee of the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Directors of the Emerald Coast Marine Institute, the Okaloosa School Foundation, and many other civic organizations.

While Mayor Anderson works diligently to improve the quality of life for the members of his community, he also makes time to greet airmen as they return from service overseas, visit area businesses to show gratitude for their community support, and even congratulate residents for their award winning lawns.

His service does not stop there; he also focuses much of his attention on another passion: the youth of the community. His commitment to helping shape the children of Fort Walton Beach into well-rounded young people has inspired Mayor Anderson to introduce several youth programs. These include the Summer Youth at Work Program, the Student Award for Civic Excellence, and a Youth Committee Program. For his dedication to students in the Take Stock in Children initiative, he was presented with the Award of Excellence in Mentoring—Local Government Mentor of the Year in the spring of 2007 by the Florida Mentoring Program.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to honor Mayor Mike Anderson for his achievements and thank him for his dedicated service. His recognition by various organizations confirms his commitment to excellence and the continuous advancement of the city of Fort Walton Beach. May God continue to bless him and I wish him continued success in his career.

IN TRIBUTE TO LLOYD MICHAEL
HAMMES

HON. LEONARD L. BOSWELL

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. BOSWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an exceptional man, Lloyd Michael Hammes, a constituent of mine from Iowa's 3rd District. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, was a prisoner of war, and until recently, was one of the few World War II veterans still living in the 3rd District of Iowa.

Mr. Hammes served his time during the Second World War in North Africa, where he was captured and spent time as a prisoner of war. During this imprisonment, he was shuffled around to various detainment camps throughout Europe. At the end of his service, he was the deserving recipient of the Purple Heart and three Bronze Stars.

When Lloyd returned to the United States, he met his wife, Virginia Perdue, at the Des Moines Veterans Affairs hospital. They were married, and eventually settled down near Harper, Iowa, where they lived for nearly 40 years. Lloyd Michael Hammes passed away

on November 13th, at the age of ninety-one. He will be missed greatly by his surviving family and friends, and by the Nation he so dutifully served. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and service of this courageous man.

IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD AIDS DAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, in recognition of the first of December as World Aids Day, I want to take a moment to highlight the gravity of the HIV/AIDS situation, particularly for the African American community. We have heard statistic after statistic; HIV/AIDS is a formidable problem across the country in all communities. Indeed, an article in the New York Times this week noted that new HIV/AIDS case estimates are actually 50 percent higher than health experts had believed. This is unacceptable. America has within it the resources to address this issue; our political leadership must take action to do so.

The Centers for Disease Control, or CDC, reported that approximately 1,000,000 Americans were living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 2003, roughly 25 percent of whom were undiagnosed and unaware of their HIV infection. Furthermore, this infection has started to increase among children at a drastic rate. Through 2005, there have been an estimated 9,000 AIDS cases reported for children under the age of 13. HIV/AIDS is becoming a problem earlier and earlier for more and more Americans.

It is very clear that HIV/AIDS is indeed an emergency situation in the African American community. According to the CDC, African Americans make up 13 percent of the Nation's population but account for 49 percent of the estimated AIDS cases diagnosed since the epidemic began. In addition, African American children make up approximately 63 percent of the estimated HIV/AIDS cases through 2005. Not only are African Americans more likely to get AIDS, they are more likely to die from it, with more than half of all AIDS-related deaths being among African Americans. Through science, research, and medical advancements, there are better treatments, prevention efforts, and a decline in AIDS diagnoses and deaths, except for African Americans.

HIV/AIDS is plaguing and destroying African American communities. Yet, I wonder how many of my colleagues or how many Americans, including African Americans, know how devastating and destructive this disease is on one population in our country. It leads to the questions: Why is more not being done? Why has this not been considered a national public health emergency? With more African American males in prison, more African American females living and dying with HIV/AIDS, what is to happen to the African American children and families?

I commend all of those individuals in my community who have pledged to do what they can. I, myself, have been publicly tested 3 times to help convince individuals to be tested, to do the things that are necessary. However, my fellow colleagues and I and all Americans

need to do much more about this problem. We all must get behind the World AIDS Day slogan: "Stop AIDS: Keep the Promise." We must increase funding for treatment and prevention, not reduce it by 19 percent as this administration has done. We must invest in medical research and needle exchange programs—prevention and treatment. The more engaged we are and the stronger determination we have will lead to the decrease in AIDS cases across the United States in all communities.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF LAWRENCE GALLAGHER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my good friend Lawrence Gallagher. Mr. Gallagher unfortunately passed away this past Thursday at the age of 68. Larry lived his life with a strong commitment to his family and to his community and is certainly most deserving of this honor.

Born in Boston, he enlisted in the United States Air Force shortly after finishing high school and was proud to serve his country with courage and distinction. At the end of his service, Larry settled in Riverside, California where he began his career in law enforcement eventually becoming the Deputy Sheriff. With a passion to serve the public, Mr. Gallagher went on to become Director of Criminal Justice Planning for the Southern California Association of Governments.

Throughout his life, he remained involved in his community by being a member of the Rotary Club, volunteering at the local YMCA, and serving on the board of directors at the South Bay Youth and Family Center. A devoted family man; he will be deeply missed by his wife, Linda; his children Donald, Dennis, Denny, and Holly; and his seven grandchildren.

Larry had a passion for water resources that led him to serve with a number of California water authorities such as: the Kern County Water Agency, the West Basin Municipal Water District and the Association of California Water Agencies. For years, I was proud to work with Larry on the water issues facing our Valley and I was fortunate enough to call him a friend. He kindly agreed to serve on the selection committee for the Jim Costa—Kern County Water Agency Water Resources Fellowship and I was grateful for his advice and wisdom.

Larry Gallagher was a man of great principle and integrity. He was my friend and I will miss him a great deal. He conducted his life with a reverence for humanity and with the philosophy of ensuring that our future generation's quality of life was protected and assured. It is with great pride that I honor him for all that he did on behalf of the San Joaquin Valley and for California.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANN CALDWELL'S SERVICE TO SOUTHERN UNION STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition to a constituent of mine, Mrs. Ann Caldwell, and her decades of service to Southern Union State Community College in Wadley, Alabama.

For the past 33 years, Mrs. Caldwell has served the Southern Union music department, during which time she earned many noteworthy accomplishments, including a standing invitation at Carnegie Hall in New York City. She is well known across East Alabama for her musical and leadership abilities, and she is frequently praised for directing highly successful and entertaining musical performances for the community each year. In addition to her service on campus, Mrs. Caldwell is an active member of her community and church.

I thank Mrs. Caldwell for her decades of academic and community service, and I wish her and her family all the best in the future.

HONORING JOHN R. SHAFER OF ST. HELENA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize John R. Shafer on the occasion of his receiving the 3rd Annual Making a Difference Award from the non-profit organization Healthy Moms and Babies. This award is being presented in recognition for his outstanding work in support of making healthcare accessible to all in the Napa Valley.

Mr. Shafer has always had a strong commitment to public service. At age 18 he enlisted in the Army Air Corps and flew combat missions over occupied Europe as a B-24 bomber pilot. After a long career in corporate textbook publishing, he came to the Napa Valley, as so many before him, looking for a new place to call home. John purchased a vineyard site in an area known as Stag's Leap. Although it had been idle for several years, he had a vision that it could grow to become one of the country's premier wineries. The following year, he moved his family to California to make this vision a reality.

Since then, Shafer Vineyards has grown into a world class winery and has done so while practicing and promoting sustainable, earth-friendly agriculture. Throughout his success in the wine industry Mr. Shafer has remained committed to serving his community. In addition to being a former president of the Napa Valley Grape Growers Association and a former member of the board of the Napa Valley Vintners Association, Mr. Shafer has also been active with the board of directors of the Community Health Clinic Ole since 1990. Clinic Ole is dedicated to bringing the highest quality medical and dental services to the underserved communities in Napa County and

has become an essential part of the health and well being of all residents of the Valley.

In addition to his support for Clinic Ole, Mr. Shafer also spearheaded the building of the Napa Valley Vinters Community Health Center. This facility houses not only Clinic Ole, but also the Sister Ann Community Dental Clinic, Napa Emergency Women's Services and also Healthy Moms and Babies, which provides pregnancy care, education and support to women in underserved communities. By seeing this project through to completion Mr. Shafer has helped to ensure that healthcare will be available to the underserved in a way that is both coordinated and accessible.

Madam Speaker, it is fitting at this time that we thank John Shafer for his commitment and dedication to helping others and his community. His efforts have ensured that thousands of residents in the Napa Valley have access to the best medical care for themselves and their children. The Making a Difference Award is only one reflection of what will surely be a legacy that will last for many years.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR MARC ZIMMER

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Professor Marc Zimmer of Connecticut College for his outstanding achievements and contributions to local, national, and international academic communities. Marc was honored with a Professor of the Year award by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and The Carnegie Foundation in Washington, D.C. on November 15.

Upon completing his undergraduate degree in chemistry at the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa, Marc moved to the United States where he earned his doctorate at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and worked as a postdoctoral fellow at Yale University. Marc remained in the academic community, continuing original research in the fields of chemistry and joining the Connecticut College faculty in 1990. Throughout this period, he served on numerous boards and committees in chemistry and related fields and was a featured lecturer at some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in the United States, Latin America, Europe, Asia, and Africa.

His publications in pioneering chemistry subjects have promulgated technological innovation, but just as importantly, inspired student involvement and interest. His most recent publication, "Glowing Genes", simplifies complexities of chemistry and biotechnology to a pedestrian relevancy and understanding. "Glowing Genes" explores the potential of green fluorescent protein (GFP), a glowing component in the *Aequorea victoria* jellyfish species, with detecting biological weapons, combating cancer, and improving agricultural production.

Academic faculties provide the foundation for education systems, and in turn, potential health, safety, and prosperity of our society. Professor Zimmer has proven to be an exemplary academic leader at Connecticut College, and more broadly through his contributions to

international chemistry curriculum. These contributions will undoubtedly ensure a healthier, safer, and more prosperous society for all. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in recognizing Professor Zimmer's outstanding accomplishments and contributions and welcome many more to come.

IN MEMORY OF SEAN TAYLOR

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, the poem below was written by poet and Capitol guide Albert Carey Caswell in honor of Sean Taylor, a Miami native and professional football player for the Washington Redskins. I rise with a heavy heart in mourning the tragic passing of Sean Taylor, a man with a bright future who left behind a loving family and scores of adoring football supporters and admirers. We pray for the Taylor family during this difficult and wrenching time. I hope these words provide some comfort to a grieving family. I humbly submit the following poem into the RECORD:

TAYLOR MADE

God Is Good, God Is Great!
All in his image, in what he has made . . .
All in what he creates!
To give to this world, in what we do . . . in
how we act . . . in all we say, to leave
behind to view!
Into our lives as sent . . .
Messages from our Lord, Taylor Made for all
of us of what life is meant . . .
To reach us, To teach us, To beseech us by
people, who in our time with us is
spent . . .
Taylor Made . . .
Beauty and The Beast!
As was Sean Taylor, number "21" . . . was
such a fine work of art to say the least!
For Sean Taylor, was Born To Run . . .
Upon, football fields of green . . . in Sunday
suns . . . in The NFL, as was this his
father's fine son!
As what our Lord had so begun . . .
A quiet and caring man, with but a calm and
steady hand!
Who high above all others, did stand . . . as
to his teammates' hearts and souls, he
ran!
Who on fields of green, brought forth such
roars throughout the stands . . .
A Man of passion . . .
Who to all hearts and souls, would so inspire
. . . as he would fashion!
A man of heart and soul, body and mind . . .
all in his short lifetime, so portrayed
in all his actions . . .
Not a hole but left by him!
But, perhaps a Void . . . that which may
never so be filled again?
For only such things in life, as left . . . by
those hearts who bring such inspiration
all in their short breaths!
A humble, quiet caring man . . .
Who in the spotlight, did not so wish to
stand . . . a family man!
Who upon fields of green, would turn into a
machine . . . creating one of The NFL's
greatest scenes!
For all that which is Good and Great! For all
that which our Lord so makes . . .
By his hand, Taylor Made . . . he creates . . .
Will not run, and Will not lie . . . with
hearts of gold, will so rise!

All in that moment of truth, of which now so
lies . . . but for their loved ones, will
so die!

Only, The Good Die Young! Now, in Heaven
Sean you run!

As so too have you, Sean our fine son . . .
now with all of those Angels, too
among!

As you are, but with all of those who have
flown, Up To heaven . . . with our
Lord, where you belong!

And in the coming years, on Sunday morn-
ings here . . .

Whenever, we think of you Sean . . . we'll
hear your voice beyond . . . all in our
tears!

Remembering how you lived life, remem-
bering how your soul burned bright . . .
as with you, we'll be near!

And what God has Taylor Made!

Hush . . . hush!

Hush . . . Little baby, Don't You Cry!

Because, one day up in heaven . . . once
again, you will gaze into your fine fa-
ther's eyes!

TRIBUTE TO CIRCUIT JUDGE JERRY WINCHESTER

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I want to bring to the notice of the House the long distinguished career of one of Kentucky's greatest attorneys, Jerry Winchester, who is returning to private life. His career spanned the wide expanses of the profession, from private practice to prosecuting attorney and judge. He was tough but fair, diligent and prepared—attributes that command the respect of anyone who has ever witnessed him in a courtroom.

Circuit Judge Jerry Winchester is leaving the bench after 20 years of deciding major civil and felony criminal cases—the murders, assaults, robberies and drug cases. He brought closure to victims and justice to perpetrators and there was nobody better.

His judicial circuit, made up of McCreary and Whitley Counties, has the highest case-load in Kentucky. Yet, he ran the court at a steady clip to handle the load, when it could have bogged down under less able leadership. He had few staff, and in the early years, none at all. He was the sole judge for over a decade and citizens counted on him alone for conducting speedy trials. This basic right, embodied in the sixth amendment of the Constitution, was upheld for thousands in southern and eastern Kentucky because of this one dedicated individual.

As the Commonwealth's prosecuting attorney in the 70's and 80's, Jerry Winchester was not interested in "running the numbers," or measuring success by how many people he put in prison. When offenders deserved harsh punishment, they got it. He weighed fairness and ethics to seek a punishment that fit the crime in those many cases where good judgment is the only thing that keeps justice from unraveling. The golden scales of justice were felt in the courtroom, it was witnessed over and over by judges, attorneys, victims, criminals and juries.

Before serving as Commonwealth's Attorney, Jerry was a high school teacher, an FBI

agent and a lawyer in private practice. He served as a Sunday school teacher for 35 years. These real-life experiences made him understand people better, as the best judges and attorneys do.

Now as Jerry heads into retirement he will have time to pursue his varied interests. These include taking up piano lessons with his seven-year-old grandson Jerry Paul and ballroom dancing lessons with his wife Nell. When he masters the piano and ballroom dancing he can tend to his bees and keep making honey and hunt and fish.

I am proud to know Jerry Winchester. There are only a few people like him. These rare individuals don't seek glory, and they don't have to. Faithfully adhering to legal principles as lives hang in the balance leads to its own recognition. It is unto itself and as pure as gold—it will never rust and will always shine. There is no substitute.

Madam Speaker, I commend to you and our colleagues of the House, the outstanding career and public service model of the Honorable Jerry Winchester of Kentucky.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: November 15, 2007: rollcall vote No. 1116, on the McHenry of North Carolina Amendment I would have voted "aye"; rollcall vote No. 1115 on the Garrett of New Jersey Amendment I would have voted "aye"; rollcall vote No. 1114 on the Price of Georgia Amendment I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO THE CHORALE MUSICAL GROUP BASED IN CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Chorale musical group based in Champaign, Illinois. This musical group founded by director Julie Beyler has been performing for audiences around the State of Illinois and abroad for the past 25 years and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize this milestone in the group's history.

The Chorale is a unique blend of individuals from various walks of life who share a love for singing and performing. The organization of mixed voices performs four concerts during a season and often provides music for a variety of community events.

Since the group's inception in 1982, The Chorale has grown from a small ensemble of singers performing holiday music in the Village of Mahomet to presently having 70–75 members from numerous local communities and performing in the areas most historic venues in front of sellout crowds.

One of the group's most notable performances was in May of 1991 at the Virginia The-

atre in Downtown Champaign. After three decades of being used primarily as a movie house, the Virginia Theatre made its return to hosting live performances by having the Chorale perform its "songs of America" concert. The group is proud to have been a part of returning this historic building to a performing venue once again.

Whether it is at the Virginia Theatre, community events around the state, or abroad, the Chorale offers its audience an unforgettable musical experience and I want to congratulate the members of the group for 25 years of success.

HONORING JOHN F. RUCKER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John Rucker for his dedication and service to his community. Mr. Rucker passed away at the age of ninety on November 11, 2007 at his home in Sonora, California.

Mr. Rucker was born December 15, 1916 in Sacramento, California. He completed courses in medical technology at the Sacramento County Hospital, and was licensed in Medical Radiology Technology. He later introduced the first electrocardiogram in Tuolumne County and upon moving to Sonora in 1948 he established a laboratory at the Columbia Way Hospital. He also helped to create the laboratory and radiological departments at Sonora Hospital and Tuolumne General Hospital.

During the 1950's Mr. Rucker helped to establish Sierra Hospital. This is where he met his wife, Patricia. Mr. Rucker was elected to the Board of Directors for Sierra Hospital and was Vice-President until 1980, when the hospital was sold to Sonora Community. Mr. Rucker retired from the medical field in 1982. However, his service did not end there.

Mr. Rucker was very involved in many aspects of Tuolumne County, and held numerous elected positions. He was elected to the Sonora City Council in 1986 and again in 1998, serving more than twelve years. He was twice elected by his council colleagues as mayor, serving from 1990 to 1992 and from 1996 to 1998. He was also a member of the Sonora Planning Committee from 1982 to 1986 and was a member of the Sonora Rotary Club, serving as president in 1953 and 1954. Mr. Rucker was heavily involved in the Tuolumne County Republican Central Committee where he served as chairman in 1987.

John Rucker is survived by his wife, Patricia Rucker; his brother and sister-in-law, James and Gloria Rucker; sons and daughters-in-law John and Janice Rucker, Daniel and Erika Rucker, and Brian Rucker; and his daughter, Sally Rucker.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor John Rucker for his leadership and assistance in expanding the horizons for all of Tuolumne County. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring his life and wishing the best for his family.

RECOGNIZING THE NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES' 2007 NATIONAL CONVENTION AND INCOMING PRESIDENT MICHAEL McGRATH

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the members of the Navy League of the United States for their exemplary work in supporting our sea services. In my hometown of Jacksonville, Florida, we have two Navy bases, a Coast Guard Sector, a U.S. Marine Corps Command and a large port, so we are constantly aware of the impact your members have on our mariners.

Our area is home to several Navy League Councils, including the Mayport Council, which is one of the largest in the country and the home Council for J. Michael McGrath, your incoming National President. As Mike prepares to accept the challenges of guiding this fine organization, I want to congratulate him and wish him well. I am confident he will lead the Navy League with the same dedication and commitment your membership is accustomed to.

Following a full Navy career, Mike continued his support of the sea services through the Navy League. Both he and his wife, Gloria, are active life members. Based on his experience and insight, Mike can provide a clear and knowledgeable plan for the future of this organization.

As our military is stretched in resources, organizations like the Navy League are even more important in fighting for the priorities and goals of our sea services, not only to Congress but also to local community leaders and businesses who must understand the value that our military institutions bring to local economies.

The 21st Century is still young, and the roles of the sea services are ever evolving. It will take innovative and effective leadership to weather these transformational times. I look forward to continuing to work with Mike McGrath in his new role as National President of the Navy League of the United States.

MACLE JOYCE SPICER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Macle Joyce Spicer of Guilford, Missouri.

Macle will be celebrating her 80th Birthday on November 25th and it is my privilege to offer her my warmest regards on achieving this important milestone. Macle is a fine citizen of Missouri and the Guilford community. It is an honor to represent Macle in the United States Congress, and I wish her all the best on this birthday and many more in the future.

HONORING MS. PRISSY GRACE ON
HER RETIREMENT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Ms. Prissy Grace, who has represented members of the National Association of Letter Carriers, on announcing her retirement. Ms. Grace was born in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1943, and started with the Humble Post Office in 1973. The National Association of Letter Carriers has recognized her dedication by electing her as a union steward, the first woman Member of the Year, the first woman full-time officer, in 1983, and the first woman president of their union, in 1998, and again in 2002. She was truly a pioneer and blazed a trail that women will be following for generations to come.

Ms. Grace once forced a postmaster, who belonged to the Klu Klux Klan, to integrate his station. She defended workers who refused to work in unsafe and dangerous conditions. She worked to turn a credit union, in receivership, into one of the strongest financial institutions in the State. In many other ways, too numerous to list here, she has improved the life of all the postal workers and their families in the Houston area. Her decades of service have generated the respect and admiration of the union members and Post Office management.

Not only was she a tireless defender of postal workers, but as a single mother, she raised three children who each went on to graduate from college. If ever an individual embodied the ideals of family values, freedom and feminism, she is this individual. She is also a good friend of my family and of working people in our country.

And so it is with great pleasure that I recognize Ms. Prissy Grace, for her distinguished service to the National Association of Letter Carriers, and I congratulate her on announcing her retirement.

CONGRATULATING ROBERT
UGUCCIONI UPON HIS RETIRE-
MENT AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF THE POCONO MOUNTAIN VA-
CATION BUREAU

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Robert Uguccioni, who is retiring after an illustrious career with the Pocono Mountain Vacation Bureau where he served for more than 40 years as its executive director.

Mr. Uguccioni spent several years early in his life in the Lake Wallenpaupack region. After graduating from Hawley High School, he entered the United States Air Force where he served 4 years supervising a material control department in Japan.

Upon returning to the Pocono Mountains, he was hired as public relations director for the Lake Wallenpaupack Association and then the Pike County Tourist Promotion Agency.

In 1967, he became executive director of the Pocono Mountain Vacation Bureau which spans four counties including Monroe, Pike, Wayne, and Carbon and is the largest tourist promotion agency of its kind in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Uguccioni represents nearly 800 members and associate members in promoting the Pocono region as a travel destination. He represents the area nationally and on the State level working toward favorable tourism legislation, government-sponsored advertising programs for tourism as well as in all facets of the tourism industry affecting the Poconos and the State.

Mr. Uguccioni serves or served on a host of boards of directors of tourism related organizations and is a past president of the Pennsylvania Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus.

On the national level, Mr. Uguccioni is involved with the American Bus Association, the American Culinary Association, the American Hotel and Motel Association, the American Society of Association Executives, the National Tour Association, the Travel Industry Association of America, National Travel Marketing Task Force, the Federal Administration Tourist Advisory Council and he is a national member of the White House Conference on Travel and Tourism.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Uguccioni for many years of service to the travel and tourism industry and in extending to him best wishes for a well-deserved retirement. Mr. Uguccioni's contributions to the travel and tourism industries have made a major impact on our regional, State, and national economies and have helped to create many job opportunities that have improved the quality of life in northeastern Pennsylvania as well as the entire Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
SERGEANT KENNETH R. BOOKER

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, November 4, 2007, the town of Vevay, Indiana, tragically lost their first son in Iraq. SGT Kenneth R. Booker died from wounds sustained from an improvised explosive device attack while on patrol in his Stryker armored vehicle in Mukhisa, Iraq.

After graduating from Switzerland County High School in 2000, Kenneth enlisted in the Army. He had already served in Afghanistan and Iraq—celebrating his 21st and 22nd birthdays respectively while serving overseas—before being deployed to Mukhisa, Iraq.

At one point, Sergeant Booker was assigned to military intelligence, but did not like being stuck behind a desk. He requested a transfer back to infantry duty, joining a Stryker Brigade Combat Unit. Sergeant Booker was well aware that his new unit was destined for Iraq.

Described by loved ones as having a tremendous sense of humor, constantly had fun, was good natured, and kind; Sergeant Booker was, simply put, a "wonderful person."

The day after Sergeant Booker's death, his mother, Becky Graham, sent a Christmas care

package to her son, unknowing that he had been killed the previous day. In the care package she included a note to her son stating that if he could not be home for Christmas, Christmas would come to him.

Sergeant Booker's father always had faith that his son would be safe, but that even the best of soldiers are killed in the line of duty.

Sergeant Kenneth R. Booker was a true hero. I, with Sergeant Booker's family, the town of Vevay, and the State of Indiana mourn this brave Hoosier's premature death. His friends and loved ones are in my prayers.

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY'S
TARTAN RACING TEAM

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Carnegie Mellon University's Tartan Racing Team and its autonomous driving robot vehicle, "Boss," on placing first in the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency's Urban Challenge, held November 3, 2007 in Victorville, California.

This contest pitted 11 autonomous vehicles against each other on a course of suburban and urban roadways. Its goal was to help develop robotics technology that can keep military personnel out of harm's way and prevent civilian automotive accidents.

Boss was the fastest of the competitors by a large margin, averaging 14 miles per hour over the approximately 55 mile course and finishing 20 minutes ahead of the second-place finisher.

Carnegie Mellon University's Tartan Racing Team has been working hard to produce revolutionary new robots that can dramatically improve driver safety. To accomplish these goals, Team Leader Dr. William "Red" Whitaker has put together a team of researchers, faculty and staff that is unparalleled in the robotics world.

I want to recognize each of these outstanding individuals by name. They are Joshua Anhalt, Hong S. Bae, Drew Bagnell, Christopher Baker, Bob Bittner, Thomas Brown, George Clancy, M. N. Clark, Dominic Dagradi, Michael Darms, Daniel Demitris, John Dolan, Dave Duggins, Dave Ferguson, Tugrul Galatali, Michele Gittleman, Sam Harbaugh, Martial Hebert, Tom Howard, Alonzo Kelly, David Kohanbash, Maxim Likhachev, Bakhtiar Litkouhi, Nick Miller, Jim Nickolaou, Kevin Peterson, Brian Pilnick, Raj Rajkumar, Paul Rybski, Varsha Sadekar, Bryan Salesky, Sebastian Scherer, Ed Schlesinger, Young-Woo Seo, Bob Shafto, Todd Shupe, Reid Simmons, Sanjiv Singh, Jarrod Snider, Spencer Spiker, Anthony Stentz, Josh Struble, Evan Tahler, Chris Urmson, Ziv Wolkowicki, Vincent Zeng, Shuqing Zeng, Wende Zhang and Jason Ziglar.

The Tartan Racing Team's success must also be credited to its relationship with its sponsors. The longstanding Carnegie Mellon-GM Collaborative Research Lab brings hardware integration and system engineering skills to the team, for example. Tartan Racing's other partners include Caterpillar, Continental AG, Intel, Google, Applanix, TeleAtlas, Vector, Ibeo, Mobileye, CarSim, CleanPower Resources, MA/COM, NetApp, Vector CANTech

and Hewlett Packard. I think we can all agree it's hard to beat a team with a bench like that.

As the Congressman representing Carnegie Mellon, and as co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Robotics, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Tartan Racing Team and Carnegie Mellon University for their innovations in robotics and for their DARPA Grand Challenge Victory.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. SACVAN
BERCOVITCH

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, I am most pleased to recognize the outstanding contributions of Dr. Sacvan Bercovitch, the Powell M. Cabot Professor of American Literature Emeritus of Harvard University, who has been awarded the Bode-Pearson Prize for his outstanding contributions to American studies.

Professor Bercovitch is the brother of a beloved constituent, Ninel Segal. He has been called "one of the great literary historians of the 20th century" and "one of the first American scholars to analyze the ideological and rhetorical functions of literature and to link art to political and cultural themes." Many of his works have been translated in French, German, Chinese, Italian, and others. I am pleased to insert into the RECORD the citation presented to Professor Bercovitch by the American Studies Association:

"Rare, extravagant spirits," says Emerson in his essay on History, "come to us at intervals, who disclose to us new facts in nature." Tonight it gives me great pleasure, on behalf of my fellow committee members, Elaine May and James Miller, to award the Bode-Pearson prize to one such spirit, indeed, the presiding spirit of American Studies, Sacvan Bercovitch. Through his writings, intellectual projects, and service to the Association, Professor Bercovitch has made an unparalleled set of distinguished contributions over the last 30 years. Perhaps no single literary historian has exerted the profound influence over his field that Bercovitch has, for he has been the key figure in the ideological turn of American literary study and the galvanizing source of its interdisciplinary practice. If the American Studies community is infinitely more robust than it was the last time the Association met in Philadelphia in 1983 when tonight's honoree was its president, it may well be the fruit of Sacvan Bercovitch's labors. If this sounds extravagant, know that it merely does justice to the extravagant bounty of his learning, the extravagant scope of his inquiry, the extravagantly searching range of his intellect, the extravagant intensity of his example for three generations of students, and the extravagant vitality of his commitment.

Bercovitch began his career as an Americanist with his publication, in 1966, of an essay on Cotton Mather, but he had begun his informal study of America some years before. As a Canadian from Montreal's rough-and-tumble Yiddish-speaking quarter, his fascination with U.S. culture preceded his engagement with its literary traditions. While Bercovitch never lost that connection to his past, and indeed, translated several of the great Yiddish writers of the 20th century, his own American studies took him to the New

School of Social Research, Reed College, Hightstown, New Jersey, where he trained to join a kibbutz in Israel, then on to Claremont college, where he took his graduate degrees, then to Brandeis, and UC-San Diego until he arrived at Columbia, where he was to stay for 13 years before taking his last academic post, at Harvard. Like Hawthorne's Holgrave, he worked at various trades, scholarly and otherwise, all of which contributed to the swell of consciousness that resulted in two paradigm-changing scholarly works of his early career: *The Puritan Origins of the American Self* (1975) and *The American Jeremiad* (1979).

In the early 1980s, Bercovitch developed the intellectual underpinnings of the next great phase of his career, when he edited and co-edited two seminal books of the era, *Reconstructing American Literary History and Ideology* and *Classic American Literature*. Let me remind you how influential those collections were when they appeared two decades ago. For the first, Bercovitch assembled an impressive line-up of scholars and literary historians whose work would resonate for years to come—like Sandra Gilbert, Walter Michaels, Werner Sollors, Wendy Steiner, Robert Stepto, and Eric Sundquist, scholars who made the case for profession only slowly—all too slowly—awakening to the realization that the literary history of the U.S. needed to be reconstructed; with Myra Jehlen, he showed that the urgency of that reconstruction was ideological and that classic American literature, the redoubt of liberal humanism, was nothing if not political, in a series of essays by Jonathan Arac, Houston Baker, Gerald Graff, Don Pease, Carolyn Porter, Jane Tompkins, and Alan Trachtenberg, among other distinguished contributors. These collections, in no small part, helped to reinvent the study of American literature and, in so doing, changed the future of this Association.

Some of you will remember vividly what the Association's meetings were like as a direct consequence of Bercovitch's term, in San Diego, New York, and Miami, and can assure people who have only recently found a home here that the intellectual ferment of these years was dizzying, especially to the extent that it matched Sacvan Bercovitch's critical example: the cultural study of literature and literary study of culture broke wide open the intellectual boundaries of the Americanists' sense of the object of scholarly inquiry. That generation of scholars who changed the way we do business, if only because they followed the ways his work so vigorously aroused the possibilities of interdisciplinary study, through what Bercovitch called the "reciprocities between symbolic and social systems." Moreover his leadership also gave the Association a new critical urgency, by moving it away from the hidebound, dry academicism that had dominated it for the previous two decades and toward public engagement. At the time there were many who resisted and not a few who resented this new direction, yet the growth of the Association might suggest just how sorely needed and how keenly received was the charge that Sacvan Bercovitch had laid before us. The ASA's sense of itself has evolved in the last ten years, and perhaps the role of cultural study of literature and the literary study of culture is not as crucial as it once was, but these changes have only been possible because of the difference that Bercovitch—his colleagues, students, and followers—first wrought.

That charge was freshly shaped in his next great contribution to American literary studies, his supervision of the new Cambridge History of American Literature, brought to completion only in the year before last. This project made bold to rewrite, not as one book or two or even the four volumes that its predecessor had essayed 70 years prior, but as eight volumes written by some thirty scholars. The task proved arduous, and perhaps its completion depended as much upon the contributors' loyalty to Bercovitch as it did their commitment to their assignment. The lesson rehearsed in page after page of the History is "dissensus," the vision of literary history that rejects easy coherence and instead accommodates the evidence of vivifying resistance out of which a fuller, truer history may be understood—the turning of the inside of literary texts out and the turning of contexts in. Bercovitch's founding idea prompted a complex way of imagining literary historiography, one that especially enlivened the understanding of students and younger scholars, so much so that the "History" that they created was largely understood to be something of a generational enterprise. Indeed, the influence of the Cambridge History can be calculated in the way its separate parts have arrived with all the authority of established wisdom; its arguments crystallize the very terms of our practice over 20 years. In this sense, its eight volumes are but the shell of a project that will outlast us all.

Bercovitch's own reading and research led him to Hawthorne and inevitably *The Scarlet Letter*, but I will pass over the great achievements of his scholarship, just as I also pass over the dutiful recitations of his many, many honors and awards, the editorial and advisory boards and executive committees on which he has served, the consultancies, the positions of leadership he undertook in a surprising variety of places all too numerous to mention, in order to take a final few minutes to recall his presidency of this association. In so many ways, the current ASA is a wonderful prism of his multifaceted accomplishments. Members of longer standing than I will testify that Bercovitch "saved" the ASA, by which they mean that during his tenure he undertook a major effort to resuscitate and transform the organization. At the time, ASA was wholly dependent on the University of Pennsylvania and in debt a considerable amount of money to them. Penn even held the copyright to AQ. Bercovitch mobilized a number of influential ASA members, including past president Daniel Aaron and Leo Marx, to change the *modus operandi*. He also realized that, most of all, the culture of ASA had to change, and beginning with a panel of luminaries devoted to the organization's future at Philadelphia in 1983, he undertook to reshape it into the entity we know today. As part of a major re-evaluation, the association took ownership of its journal, established new publishing arrangements, raised new funds, relocated to Washington, DC, shifted to annual meetings (although the planning for this began with Bercovitch, Michael Cowan eventually pushed it through). Plus, the ASA under Bercovitch began to internationalize, reinvigorating ties with the Canadian and European associations, even as it moved forcefully to diversify, naming Martha Banta as program chair of the San Diego conference, which, in turn, featured the work of several future presidents—Mary Helen Washington, Stephen Sumida, Vicki Ruiz—all of whom became involved in the organization for the first time.

In short, we might dedicate ourselves tonight to making ASA worthy of this immeasurably rich legacy. So please join with me and applaud, extravagantly, the career of

Saki Bercovitch.—Gordon Hutner, Professor of American Literature, University of Illinois, Editor, *American Literary History*.

RESTORE ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3773, the "Responsible Electronic Surveillance That Is Overseen, Reviewed, and Effective Act of 2007." I support this legislation, the RESTORE Act, because it corrects the damage done by the misnamed Protect America Act and restores this Nation's commitment to the rule of law, the dignity of the individual, and the separation of powers. This legislation is worthy of an aye vote from all Members because it restores allegiance to the Constitution and gives our intelligence agencies all the tools they need to conduct the foreign surveillance necessary to keep our country safe.

Mr. Speaker, in August of this year, I strongly opposed S. 1927, the so-called "Protect America Act" (PAA) when it came to a vote on the House floor. And I was a very reluctant supporter of H.R. 3356, the House alternative that attracted a majority of votes, but not a two-thirds super-majority, on the House floor. Had the Bush Administration and the Republican-dominated 109th Congress acted more responsibly in the two preceding years, we would not have been in the position of debating legislation that had such a profoundly negative impact on the national security and on American values and civil liberties in the crush of exigent circumstances. As that regrettable episode clearly showed, it is true as the saying goes that haste makes waste.

The PAA was stamped through the Congress in the midnight hour of the last day before the long August recess on the dubious claim that it was necessary to fill a gap in the Nation's intelligence gathering capabilities identified by Director of National Intelligence Mike McConnell. But in reality it would have eviscerated the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution and represented an unwarranted transfer of power from the courts to the Executive Branch and a Justice Department led at that time by an Attorney General whose reputation for candor and integrity was, to put it charitably, subject to considerable doubt.

The legislation before us, the RESTORE Act, H.R. 3773 is superior to the PAA by orders of magnitude. This is due in no small measure, Mr. Speaker, to the willingness of the leadership to reach out to and work with all members of the House. The result shows. The RESTORE Act does not weaken our Nation's commitment to its democratic traditions. Rather, it represents a sound policy proposal for achieving the only legitimate goals of a terrorist surveillance program, which is to ensure that American citizens and persons in America are secure in their persons, papers, and effects, but terrorists throughout the world are made insecure. Let me direct the attention of all members to several of the more important aspects of this salutary legislation.

First, H.R. 3773 explicitly affirms that that the exclusive law to follow with respect to au-

thorizing foreign surveillance gathering on U.S. soil is the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). As initially enacted by Congress in 1978, the exclusivity of FISA was undisputed and unambiguous. I hasten to add, however, that while FISA remains the exclusive source of law, H.R. 3773 recognizes that the law as enacted in 1978 can and should be adapted to modern circumstances and to accommodate new technologies. And it does so by making clear that foreign to foreign communications are not subject to the FISA, even though modern technology enables that communication to be routed through the United States.

Second, under H.R. 3773, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (FISC) is indispensable and is accorded a meaningful role in ensuring compliance with the law. The bill ensures that the FISC is empowered to act as an Article III court should act, which means the court shall operate neither as a rubber-stamp nor a bottleneck. Rather, the function of the court is to validate the lawful exercise of executive power on the one hand, and to act as the guardian of individual rights and liberties on the other.

Third, the bill does not grant amnesty to any telecommunications company or to any other entity or individual that helped Federal intelligence agencies spy illegally on innocent Americans. I strongly support this provision because granting such blanket amnesty for past misconduct will have the unintended consequence of encouraging telecommunications companies to comply with, rather than contest, illegal requests to spy on Americans. The only permissible path to legalization of conduct in this area is full compliance with the requirements of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

Moreover, Mr. Speaker, it is important to point out that the loudest demands for blanket immunity comes not from the telecommunications companies but from the Administration, which raises the interesting question of whether the Administration's real motivation is to shield from public disclosure the ways and means by which government officials may have "persuaded" telecommunications companies to assist in its warrantless surveillance programs. I call my colleagues' attention to an article published in the Washington Post last Sunday, in which it is reported that Joseph Nacchio, the former CEO of Qwest, alleges that his company was denied NSA contracts after he declined in a February 27, 2001 meeting at Fort Meade with National Security Agency (NSA) representatives to give the NSA customer calling records.

Mr. Speaker, the authorization to conduct foreign surveillance on U.S. soil provided by H.R. 3773 is temporary and will expire in 2 years if not renewed by the Congress. This is perhaps the single most important limitation on the authority conferred on the Executive Branch by this legislation. The good and sufficient reason for imposing this limitation is because the threats to America's security and the liberties of its people will change over time and thus require constant vigilance by the people's representatives in Congress.

To give a detailed illustration of just how superior the RESTORE Act is to the ill-considered and hastily enacted Protect America Act, I wish to take a few moments to discuss an important improvement in the bill that was adopted in the full Judiciary Committee markup.

The Jackson-Lee Amendment added during the markup made a constructive contribution to the RESTORE Act by laying down a clear, objective criterion for the Administration to follow and the FISA court to enforce in preventing reverse targeting.

"Reverse targeting," a concept well known to members of this Committee but not so well understood by those less steeped in the arcana of electronic surveillance, is the practice where the government targets foreigners without a warrant while its actual purpose is to collect information on certain U.S. persons.

One of the major concerns that libertarians and classical conservatives, as well as progressives and civil liberties organizations, have with the PAA is that the understandable temptation of national security agencies to engage in reverse targeting may be difficult to resist in the absence of strong safeguards in the PAA to prevent it.

My amendment reduces even further any such temptation to resort to reverse targeting by requiring the administration to obtain a regular, individualized FISA warrant whenever the "real" target of the surveillance is a person in the United States.

The amendment achieves this objective by requiring the administration to obtain a regular FISA warrant whenever a "significant purpose of an acquisition is to acquire the communications of a specific person reasonably believed to be located in the United States." The current language in the bill provides that a warrant be obtained only when the Government "seeks to conduct electronic surveillance" of a person reasonably believed to be located in the United States.

It was far from clear how the operative language "seeks to" is to be interpreted. In contrast, the language used in my amendment, "significant purpose," is a term of art that has long been a staple of FISA jurisprudence and thus is well known and readily applied by the agencies, legal practitioners, and the FISA Court. Thus, the Jackson-Lee Amendment provides a clearer, more objective, criterion for the administration to follow and the FISA court to enforce to prevent the practice of reverse targeting without a warrant, which all of us can agree should not be permitted.

Let us be clear, Mr. Speaker, that nothing in the bill or in my amendment requires the Government to obtain a FISA order for every overseas target on the off chance that they might pick up a call into or from the United States. Rather, the bill requires, as our amendment makes clear, a FISA order only where there is a particular, known person in the United States at the other end of the foreign target's calls in whom the Government has a significant interest such that a significant purpose of the surveillance has become to acquire that person's communications.

This will usually happen over time, and the Government will have the time to get an order while continuing its surveillance. And it is the national security interest to require it to obtain an order at that point, so that it can lawfully acquire all of the target person's communications rather than continuing to listen to only some of them.

The Jackson-Lee amendment gives the Government precisely what Director of National Intelligence McConnell asked for when he testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee: "It is very important to me; it is very important to members of this Committee. We

should be required—we should be required in all cases to have a warrant anytime there is surveillance of a US [sic] person located in the United States.”

In short, the Jackson-Lee amendment makes a good bill even better. For this reason alone, civil libertarians should enthusiastically embrace the RESTORE Act.

Nearly 2 centuries ago, Alexis de Tocqueville, who remains the most astute student of American democracy, observed that the reason democracies invariably prevail in any martial conflict is because democracy is the governmental form that best rewards and encourages those traits that are indispensable to martial success: initiative, innovation, resourcefulness, and courage.

Mr. Speaker, the best way to win the war on terror is to remain true to our democratic traditions. If it retains its democratic character, no nation and no loose confederation of international villains will defeat the United States in the pursuit of its vital interests.

Thus, the way forward to victory in the war on terror is for the United States country to redouble its commitment to the Bill of Rights and the democratic values, which every American will risk his or her life to defend. It is only by preserving our attachment to these cherished values that America will remain forever the home of the free, the land of the brave, and the country we love.

**HONORS CHRIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF STRATFORD, CON-
NECTICUT AS THEY CELEBRATE
THEIR 300TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the Reverend Robert Stuhlmann, members of the congregation, and the Stratford community in extending my sincere congratulations to Christ Episcopal Church as they celebrate its 300th Anniversary. This is a milestone for this community treasure and I am proud to help them celebrate.

As we gather to celebrate this anniversary, we can also reflect on the inspiration the Christ Episcopal Church had in the creation of the United States of America. The Church holds a unique place not only in Connecticut's history, but in that of our nation as well. The first parishioners of this parish were actually forced to worship secretly in people's homes to avoid harassment by the then dominant Congregationalists who had fled to the New World to escape persecution by the Church of England. In fact, many of the twelve men who established the parish were jailed for their defiance of the General Court of Connecticut which deemed there could only be one church—and it was Congregational.

Reverend Robert Stuhlmann, the 30th pastor of Christ Episcopal Church, has described the birth of the Anglican Church in the United States as mirroring that of our nation. Just eighty years after the formation of Christ Episcopal, the Church would play a direct role in the creation of our Constitution. Among the Connecticut delegation, the framers of the Constitution, was William Samuel Johnson,

son of Samuel Johnson, the church's first resident priest. It is said that the Constitution took its final form based on the experiences of the Christ Episcopal parish as they encountered the opposition of an established religion in Connecticut. Samuel Johnson, who also served as the first president of Kings College, or what is known today as Columbia University, also left his mark on the Declaration of Independence. We all know the phrase “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” but what many may not know is that the phrase pursuit of happiness was one which Samuel Johnson frequently used in his preaching—believing that God desires humanity to be happy.

Since its inception in 1707, Christ Episcopal Church has been an integral part of our community and has now grown to its current 223 parish families like 100-year old Clint Brelsford who has derived happiness as a parishioner for 97 years. Our churches play a vital role in our communities—providing people with a place to turn to for comfort when they are most in need. By strengthening our bonds of faith, Christ Episcopal gives its members a place to find their spiritual center and to solidify and support their values. The members of this special parish have also given much to the Town of Stratford. Throughout the years, as their membership grew so did their commitment to the enrichment of our community.

Christ Episcopal Church is so much more than simply a place of worship—it is the center of spiritual and community life for its members. For three hundred years, Christ Episcopal Church has been a fixture in Stratford. Through their ministry and outreach efforts, they have left an indelible mark on our community and continue to enrich the lives of others. I am proud to stand today and extend my best wishes to them as they mark this milestone in their history. Happy 300th Anniversary!

TRIBUTE TO MR. SHAUN HEENAN

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Shaun Heenan of the city of Dunkirk, New York, for his recent election as a member of the Chautauqua County Legislature. Following a close election victory on November 7, Mr. Heenan will represent the second district in the Legislature beginning January 1, 2008.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Heenan traveled that path with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of Chautauqua County.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong candidates with a desire to make this county the wonderful place we all know it can be. Mr. Heenan is one of those people, and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE
UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO LIONEL
HAMPTON INTERNATIONAL JAZZ
FESTIVAL**

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in joining President George W. Bush in honoring the University of Idaho's Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival. President Bush presented the National Medal of Arts award to University of Idaho President Timothy P. White in a White House ceremony yesterday.

The University of Idaho, located in Moscow, Idaho, is the first public university to receive this award since it was created by Congress in 1984. The award honors one of the Nation's premier jazz festivals, named in honor of the late, great jazz musician Lionel Hampton. I should note that the University of Idaho holds a special place in my heart, as I attended the university's law school, graduating in the class of 1984.

As described by the University of Idaho, “The festival began in 1967 and grew in presence and prestige through the decades. In 1985, the festival was renamed the Lionel Hampton/Chevron Festival in Mr. Hampton's honor and was rededicated as the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival in 2006. Mr. Hampton died in 2002 at the age of 94.”

Lionel Hampton's vision of providing opportunities for professional musicians to mentor young, aspiring jazz artists has made the festival a remarkable success. A festival that began as a 1-day event has now evolved into a 4-day event that includes four concerts by professional jazz musicians, three student concerts and student performances that take place in 20 different locations on the campus and throughout the community. The festival also hosts a series of workshops.

This year's attendance included approximately 10,000 students from more than 300 schools, in addition to teachers, parents and local jazz enthusiasts. The festival has drawn leading jazz artists from around the world, including current director and six-time Grammy-nominated artist John Clayton, the late queen of jazz, Ella Fitzgerald, legendary trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie and renowned jazz innovator Bobby McFerrin, among many others. The festival will celebrate its 41st anniversary February 20–23 of next year. I urge all my colleagues to join me in congratulating University President White, Festival Director Clayton, and former festival director Lynn “Doc” Skinner in accepting this tremendous honor on behalf of the University of Idaho.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO CARROLL
SENIOR HIGH AND CARROLL
HIGH SCHOOL ON THEIR 5A
GIRLS STATE CROSS COUNTRY
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor

the Carroll Senior High and Carroll High School's Lady Dragon Cross Country Team on their 2007 5A State Championship.

This is the Lady Dragon's first place win for the third consecutive year. The team learned days after the November 17th State 5A meet that they finished in first place. They were originally awarded second, following a tie breaker, but the University Interscholastic League later confirmed an error in the place results and awarded the Lady Dragon's with the top finish.

The Lady Dragon State Cross Country consists of 7 tremendous young women, including Seniors Taylor Stephens and Lauren Hill; Juniors Tara Upshaw, Lucia Xiong, Caitlin Gilbert and Jessica Ferber; and Sophomore Jessica Harper. They are coached by Robert Ondrasek.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Lady Dragon's on a great season and their State Championship. The Carroll Senior High School and the Carroll High School deserve public recognition for this great honor and I extend my congratulations to the outstanding runners and coaching staff.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARCI NOVAK

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marci Novak, the founder of For the Love of the Lake.

In 1995, Marci and a group of enthusiastic volunteers formed For the Love of the Lake, committed to the preservation and enhancement of White Rock Lake Park in Dallas, Texas. She envisioned turning a dirty, litter-filled lake into a clean and beautiful urban oasis. Under her leadership, For the Love of the Lake has expanded to thousands of volunteers and implemented creative new programs such as the White Rock 'n' Roll Run, Adopt-a-Shoreline, and the Celebration Tree Grove project.

Whether rain or shine, warm or cold, Marci has spent countless Saturdays at White Rock Lake over the years. As a result of her hard work, For the Love of the Lake has received countless contributions from the local community as well as grants from Dallas Park and Recreation Department. We share a common vision—a clean and magnificent environment where children can play and wild life can flourish. It was that shared vision that spurred my involvement, which began in 1995. I am grateful for Marci—for her getting me involved in such a wonderful and valuable organization and for her dedication, which has ensured that White Rock Lake Park can continue to be enjoyed by families, local citizens, and visitors.

Madam Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues join me in expressing our heartfelt gratitude for her passion and hard work.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING KEVIN MILLER FOR WINNING THE DIVISION III STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT.

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Kevin Miller showed hard work and dedication to the sport of golf; and

Whereas, Kevin Miller was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Kevin Miller always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the green; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Kevin Miller on winning the Division III State Golf Tournament. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007 golf season.

A TRIBUTE TO JESSE L. BLANDING

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jesse L. Blanding. Jesse was born in Lugoff, South Carolina to Bergegard and Mazie Blanding. He is 1 of 7 children, 2 boys and 5 girls.

Jesse was educated in the Lugoff School System, graduating from Jackson High School in 1962. Upon his graduation, he obtained a job with the City of Columbia as a laborer. He eventually worked his way up to machinist and later, bricklayer.

Jesse relocated to New York City gaining employment at Standard Plating where he was able to display his willingness to work hard. It all paid off when he received a promotion to foreman. After 5 years, he went to work for the Nice Fuel Oil Company. After 3 years he left Nice Fuel and went to work for Wally Fuel where he stayed for 17 years.

Jesse is a busy member of New Canaan Baptist Church. He has worked as the bus driver and maintenance person for New Canaan's bus company. Jesse's memberships in various ministries include: former president of the Male Chorus, Chairman of the Musician's Appreciation Committee, and membership in the South Carolina Club. He is instrumental in the renovation of New Canaan and its day to day upkeep.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the hard work and achievements of Jesse Blanding.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this kind and tenacious man.

TRIBUTE TO THE SNOWBOARD OUTREACH SOCIETY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the great work of the Snowsports Outreach Society (SOS Outreach), based in Vail, Colorado, which is dedicated to providing outdoor recreation and confidence-building opportunities to underprivileged youth.

The snow sports industry is an essential part of Colorado's lifestyle, economy and image. Colorado's mountainous terrain and world class resorts have set the standard for the ultimate experience in sliding on snow. As co-chair of the Congressional Ski and Snowboard Caucus and an avid skier myself, I understand the importance of this outdoor activity—in all its forms—for its physical health benefits and the recreation economy of Colorado and the country's ski resorts.

SOS Outreach complements the benefits of snow sports by providing dynamic programs to 2,500 youths in need nationwide. During the current season, 2,000 Colorado participants will be enrolled in a 7-year curriculum. I am proud to support the work that they do to grow the sport and promote positive self-esteem in their participants.

Now celebrating its 14th anniversary, SOS Outreach was founded in Vail, Colorado in 1993. SOS Outreach is a grassroots, 501(c)(3) organization. Through the work of its founder and executive director, Arn Menconi and former director of snowboarding for Vail Resorts, Ray Sforzo, a charity was developed that appealed to the mountain resort's desire to build the community by serving underprivileged youth.

SOS Outreach first introduced youth to the benefits of outdoor recreation during the 1995–1996 season when they taught 40 youths snowboarding. They were provided with one day of free lessons, equipment and lift tickets. Since their first season, SOS Outreach has partnered with mountain resorts, youth agencies, foundations, corporations and individual donors to expand their curriculum and serve over 7,500 youths. SOS Outreach is further leveraging their partnerships to expand their programs and include skiing. Over 7,000 program days will be provided at 29 resorts across the country, 13 in the State of Colorado.

SOS Outreach reaches out to its participants by providing a high quality, resilience-based program that positively impacts self-esteem and ability to participate positively within their communities; supports underserved youth through adult mentorship; and encourages personal character education through SOS Outreach's five core values of courage, discipline, integrity, wisdom and compassion. In using snowboarding and skiing as the carrot, SOS Outreach also sets personal, academic and athletic goals with kids and provides vocational skills training. Their curriculum is recognized nationally for its impact.

The dynamic programming they provide would not be successful without the substantial support of the following individuals and organizations. I would like to recognize and thank each of them for sustaining such a program in Colorado:

Bill Jensen and Kara Heide of Vail Resorts; Ken Gart and everyone at Specialty Sports Venture; Chris Ryman of Booth Creek Ski Holdings; Colorado Mountain Resorts for their donation of lift tickets, lessons and rental equipment; Harry Frampton and Ceil Folz of the Vail Valley Foundation; Robert Veitch of the Harold W. Shaw and Mary Louise Shaw Foundation; Linda Childers of the Daniels Fund; William Hybl of the El Pomar Foundation; Bill Cotton of Optic Nerve Sunglasses; Robert Marcovitch of K2 Inc.; Mike West of 686; Wendy and Mike Carey of Seirus; Chaos Hats; Ride Snowboards; Salomon Sports; Sutherland Foundation; Bob Hernreich; Kay and Craig Tuber; to the staff of SOS Outreach: Am & Anne Menconi, Michelle Hartel, Jon Garrou, Seth Ehrlich, Jody Link, Thersa Bisio; and, the hundreds of adults that give of themselves to be positive mentors to these young people.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking SOS Outreach for its great work and extending our wishes for continued success and instilling a love for the outdoors and snow sports—and personal achievement and self confidence—for many young people.

THE PASSING OF CONGRESSMAN
HENRY HYDE

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the passing of our colleague from Illinois, Henry J. Hyde. Congressman Hyde served in the House of Representatives for over 30 years and his respect for this body and the United States of America was a hallmark of his career. Volunteering to serve in the Navy during World War II, he played basketball at Georgetown, graduated from Loyola law school and eventually chaired both the Judiciary and International Relations Committees, presiding over both with the same dignity and eloquence with which he treated all floor debate.

Henry was perhaps best known as Congress's leading voice for protecting the unborn. During his first term, he was successful in enacting the "Hyde amendment," which outlawed the Federal funding of abortion in most cases, and still stands today. But what stands out equally to many of us is the way he handled this advocacy, always arguing passionately, always arguing forcefully, but always arguing his beliefs with a grace and tact that provided for an honest exchange on the most contentious of issues. This is a great lesson for all of us today, that even when we disagree, we should debate the issues on their merits, with the highest levels of decorum.

Madam Speaker, Henry Hyde was an influential presence in the House of Representatives and both national and Illinois politics. He will not soon be forgotten, and I send my condolences to his family.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JOSEPH AGIN FOR WINNING THE DIVISION III STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Joseph Agin showed hard work and dedication to the sport of golf; and Whereas, Joseph Agin was a supportive team player; and Whereas, Joseph Agin always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the green; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Joseph Agin on winning the Division III State Golf Tournament. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007 golf season.

A TRIBUTE TO PAUL AJLOUNY,
ESQ.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the work and achievements of Paul Ajlouny. Paul was born in 1959 in Detroit, Michigan. He moved to Hempstead, Long Island in 1965.

Paul graduated from Chaminade High School in Mineola, New York in 1977. He earned a Bachelor's of Science Degree from American University of Beirut with a double major of Biology and Chemistry, graduating with honors. Afterwards he attended American University of Beirut's Medical School.

Paul became Vice-President of Export for Omar International Grain and Trading Company in 1983. In 1989, he left there and became a Hospital Administrator. Following his stint at the hospital, he decided to return to college and enrolled in St. John's Law School. He graduated from St. John's in 1999.

Paul now has a private practice specializing in personal injury law. His firm serves poor and disadvantaged clients throughout the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens. He is a member of the Nassau County Bar Association; the Trial Lawyers of America; The New York State Bar Association; and the American Bar Association.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Paul Ajlouny, Esq. for his contributions to our community and for providing his legal expertise to those who need it most.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Paul Ajlouny.

HONORING SCOTT ADAMCHESKI

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Scott Adamcheski for

his exemplary courage. Scott Adamcheski is a fireman with Station No. 5 in Boulder, Colorado. On October 26, 2007 he was one of a group of firefighters who responded to a call at the Gold Run Apartment Complex.

Upon arrival Mr. Adamcheski searched one of the apartment buildings for anyone who may have been trapped by the ensuing flames. Mr. Jordan Brooks, a senior at the University of Colorado, cried for help as he lay choking on the 3rd floor. Mr. Adamcheski found the student, immediately called for backup and brought Mr. Brooks to safety through a window he had to break.

This is just one example of the risks firefighters take every day. Mr. Adamcheski's bravery was called to my attention and while I am sure he takes his actions in stride as the kind of thing he and his fellow firefighters contend with routinely, and as a part of their professional training, I think the rest of us marvel at the personal courage it takes to face fires and rescue people. In this spirit, I want to acknowledge the other firefighters at Station No. 5 in Boulder and all the firefighters in America who risk their lives us to keep our communities safe.

As a prime example of the courage and heroism that firefighters exhibit every day, and to recognize Scott Adamcheski for his service, I ask my colleagues to join with me in thanking him, and acknowledging the efforts of firefighters across America.

IN MEMORY OF GARY GALLOWAY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in memory of Gary Galloway, who passed away November 21 at the age of 56.

Gary Galloway was a detective at the Simi Valley, California, Police Department, which is an understatement of the important work he performed there. For 21 of the 29 years Gary served the Simi Valley community, he investigated child sexual abuse cases and other crimes against persons.

Twenty-one years is a long time for a detective to investigate child sex abuse cases. Most officers suffer from an understandable burnout confronting the worse a criminal can do to a child. But Gary was passionate about protecting children. He was equally a skilled and hardworking detective.

Countless lives have been protected because of Gary's diligence and professionalism. Equally, many individuals were cleared of false allegations because of Gary's dedication to the truth.

I met Gary when I was elected to the Simi Valley City Council and he was a new officer, and got to know him through many ride-alongs with him on patrol. I followed his career through my years as mayor and as congressman. He was a respected friend who I visited with just a few weeks ago during the Simi Valley Days Parade.

Gary served as a reserve officer before joining the Police Department full time in 1980. He quickly made his mark as a patrol officer and a field training officer. Then he joined the detective ranks and was assigned to child sex abuse cases. He never looked back.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in honoring the memory of Gary Galloway and his decades of service to public safety and particularly in his work to protect our children. In addition, I know my colleagues join me in extending our condolences to his wife, Victoria, and his adult sons, Gregory, Robert, and Darren, and to all whose lives Gary touched privately and professionally.

Godspeed, Gary.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING
TYLER GERBER FOR WINNING
THE DIVISION III STATE GOLF
TOURNAMENT**

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Tyler Gerber showed hard work and dedication to the sport of golf; and

Whereas, Tyler Gerber was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Tyler Gerber always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the green; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Tyler Gerber on winning the Division III State Golf Tournament. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007 golf season.

**A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM B. JONES,
MD**

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to William B. Jones. Dr. Jones is dedicated to the study of science, as he has worked endlessly to contribute his time and attention to the medical field.

Dr. Jones was educated at Morehouse College with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He later went on to attend Georgetown Medical School in Washington, DC, where he became a Medical Doctor.

Dr. Jones is fortunate with the impressive opportunity to have a private practice in Hempstead, New York. He is also the Chairman for the Department of PM&R at Island Medical Center, and Resident Physician at the Nassau County Medical Center in East Meadow, New York.

Dr. Jones is a busy member of the American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation; the Physiatric Association of Spine, Sports & Occupational Rehabilitation; The New York State Society of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation; Nassau Medical Association; American Medical Association; and the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the hard work and achievements of William B. Jones, MD. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this kind and tenacious man.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO CARMEL
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carmel Catholic High School in Mundelein, IL, for being named a 2007 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School.

Nearly 1,500 students, ages 13 to 18, attend Carmel Catholic High School. Carmel Catholic is one of only 5 high schools nationwide to win the Blue Ribbon School award 4 times. With a great devotion to learning and academic achievement, Carmel is a faith-based community that attributes their success to the dedication and hard-work of their teachers. As a result, these students consistently score above State and national averages on standardized tests in all subject areas. In addition, it is the only high school in Illinois and one of three private high schools in the Nation to be recognized.

Carmel Catholic is among 287 schools from across the Nation chosen by the Secretary of Education to receive this acknowledgement. These schools have distinguished themselves by embodying the goals of reaching high standards and closing the achievement gap. Schools selected for this honor either have students from all subgroups that have demonstrated significant improvement or have students that achieve in the top 10 percent of their State on statewide tests.

This is a great honor for the 10th District and I congratulate the principal, Fr. Robert C. Carroll, the students, and teachers at Carmel Catholic High School for this achievement.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING MICHAEL
DAGUE FOR WINNING
THE DIVISION III STATE GOLF
TOURNAMENT**

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Michael Dague showed hard work and dedication to the sport of golf; and

Whereas, Michael Dague was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Michael Dague always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the green; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Michael Dague on winning the Division III State Golf Tournament. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007 golf season.

**A TRIBUTE TO MRS. SARAH V.
KENNEDY**

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Sarah V. Kennedy. Mrs. Ken-

nedy has served the Brooklyn community as an outstanding citizen and advocate for fair work ethics and job security.

Sarah, born in Brooklyn, NY to the Rev. Febber and Hattie Ruth Kennedy, at Coney Island Hospital is the seventh of ten siblings. She was educated in the New York City public school system. Sarah attended Clara Barton High School where she majored in Cosmetology. After graduation she continued her education by attending Brooklyn College where she majored in Early Childhood Development.

Upon completion of her studies, Sarah found employment at P.S. 80 as a Kindergarten teacher. Sarah taught for 3 years and then moved on to the New York City Housing Authority. There, Sarah worked for a grassroots federally-funded poverty program for approximately 8 to 10 years. Sarah later went on to serve as a Social Health Technician in Psychology at Coney Island Hospital and also began her involvement with DC37's Local 420 union under the leadership of the late James Butler. Sarah made it a point to become involved with the union and became the Local 420's Chapter Chairperson. As the chapter's chairperson, Sarah was instrumental in fighting for union members to receive respect, fair work ethics, and job security. Her role in the Local 420's campaign for equality assisted in preventing the closing of Coney Island Hospital by the former Mayor Giuliani.

Sarah's many accomplishments and achievements as the Local 420's Chapter Chairperson helped to catapult her into the esteemed position of being the first ever Executive Vice President for DC37, Local 420.

Madam Speaker, I would once again like to recognize the impressive achievements of Mrs. Sarah V. Kennedy. The dedication and contributions that Sarah Kennedy has given to the Brooklyn community are greatly appreciated and continue to constructively develop our district.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this extraordinary woman and the great things that she stands for.

**TRIBUTE TO MAYOR LOU BONE OF
TUSTIN, CA**

HON. JOHN CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. CAMPBELL of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Lou Bone, Mayor of the City of Tustin, California. Mayor Bone is one of Orange County's most dedicated, distinguished, and honorable citizens. He has had the honor to serve as Mayor of the great city of Tustin twice during his public service career, first in 2005, and now in 2007.

Lou Bone is a second generation Californian, who has lived in Tustin with his wife, Carol, since 1969. He has 40 years of business management experience as a corporate president, and small business owner. He brought his knowledge from the private sector to serve the city of Tustin in 2000.

Madam Speaker, Mayor Bone is an American Citizen with a passion for service. He has a long history of community service, including service as President of Tustin Chamber of

Commerce, Chairman of the Tustin Planning Commission, and Chairman and founding member of Tustin Pride, a community based organization dedicated to making the City of Tustin more attractive.

For his service in the Tustin community as a public servant and businessman, Lou has received several notable awards which include being named Tustin Man of the Year, the California Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Advocate of the Year, and the California Secretary of State's Ingenuity in Business Award.

I know Mr. Bone's family is extremely proud of his accomplishments, as am I. He has worked tirelessly to improve his community and his efforts should be emulated by future public servants in Tustin.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Mayor Lou Bone today as an outstanding American citizen and public servant.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JOSH MILLER FOR WINNING THE DIVISION III STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Josh Miller showed hard work and dedication to the sport of golf; and

Whereas, Josh Miller was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Josh Miller always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the green; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Josh Miller on winning the Division III State Golf Tournament. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007 golf season.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. DECOSTA HEADLEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. DeCosta Headley. Mr. Headley has served the Brooklyn community as an advocate for social service programs and making a progressive change in our district.

Mr. Headley graduated from Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina, with a B.A. in Behavioral Science. He resides in East New York with his wife and two daughters.

Mr. Headley's philanthropic activities are well known throughout the East New York/Brownsville communities. He has served on various local community planning boards; and was the founder of the community's first local development corporation, resulting in over 3,000 new jobs. Mr. Headley was also the founder of the Federation of Block Associations for East New York. He spent several years as a social worker, and in the late

1970s became the executive director of numerous group homes for at-risk youth within the East New York/Brownsville communities. Among Mr. Headley's notable achievements is the Federation of Addiction Agencies, which was established to provide a drug-free treatment program in East New York and Brownsville.

As a successful entrepreneur, Mr. Headley is President of Diversified Inch By Inch, Inc., one of the city's top African-American general contracting firms. Always in the forefront of serving his community, Mr. Headley's company has built local medical and dental facilities for Oxford Health Plans, Brookdale Hospital & Medical Center, and Interfaith Medical Center. Mr. Headley has enhanced his entrepreneurial spirit by aiding local churches within the five boroughs acquire land for the use of building senior citizen housing and youth centers.

For over 16 years, DeCosta Headley served as District Leader for the 40th Assembly District in the East New York section of Kings County. Throughout his career, Mr. Headley has dedicated himself to enhancing the quality of life for his constituents. Those efforts have resulted in college scholarships, employment opportunities, affordable housing, and increased public services. Now retired from the position, he continues to play an active role in the political landscape of Brooklyn, by successfully operating the campaigns of candidates seeking seats on the city, state, and federal levels of government within and outside the state of New York. Mr. Headley's efforts have led him to receive several community awards including: The Martin Luther King, Jr. Foundation Award and the Mayor's Award for Community Service.

Madam Speaker, I would once again like to recognize the impressive achievements and contributions that Mr. DeCosta Headley has made to the Brooklyn Community. The dedication that Mr. Headley has displayed throughout his career continues to constructively develop our district.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this remarkable man and the great things that he stands for.

RESTORE ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, on November 15th, 2007, I missed a vote on final passage of the Responsible Electronic Surveillance That is Overseen, Reviewed, and Effective (RESTORE) Act of 2007. I would have voted YEA.

Effectively defending Americans from the threat of terrorist attacks, while safeguarding cherished and essential civil liberties and privacy protections, requires the Federal government to periodically reassess how intelligence information is collected. Congress has a duty to ensure that intelligence is collected expeditiously and can be analyzed efficiently, but within bounds long-established through constitutional jurisprudence.

The RESTORE Act carefully prescribes what types of communications, when reason-

ably believed to contain information relating to a terrorist investigation, would require Fourth Amendment warrant protections. Specifically, the bill would require court-ordered search warrants when the identity and whereabouts of one subject is, or could reasonably be, an American citizen. This provision would provide discrete guidance for intelligence officers and prevent warrantless surveillance of Americans.

Intelligence investigations into terrorist activities are fast-paced and often rely on the use of modern telecommunications technology. The RESTORE Act acknowledges that such intelligence gathering is unique, and facilitates such investigations while ensuring they meet crucial constitutional standards. It also checks potential abuses of power by ensuring that a court, and not an executive branch political appointee, decides whether the communications of an American citizen are to be intercepted. By doing so it gives our citizens the best protection we can provide them: review of the executive branch's actions by a court.

I had serious concerns about the PROTECT America Act, but I voted for it earlier this year because of the urgent needs presented by the intelligence community and the temporary nature of the bill's authority. The RESTORE Act is a vast improvement from the PROTECT America Act, as it provides necessary constitutional protections to American citizens and practical guidance for intelligence officers.

This bill properly responds to the evolving terrorist threat and respects constitutional jurisprudence. It should be accepted by the Administration.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING AUSTIN YODER FOR WINNING THE DIVISION III STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Austin Yoder showed hard work and dedication to the sport of golf; and

Whereas, Austin Yoder was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Austin Yoder always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the green; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Austin Yoder on winning the Division III State Golf Tournament. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007 golf season.

A TRIBUTE TO ELIJAH T. GREEN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Elijah T. Green of Bushwick, New York.

Mr. Green is currently enrolled in high school at Eastern Brooklyn Congregation for

Public Service in Bushwick, New York. He previously attended PS 297, Abraham Stockton School, and IS 33, Mark Hopkins Intermediate School, located in Bedford Stuyvesant.

Mr. Green was born February 15, 1991 and 7 short years ago joined and was baptized, in June of 2000, at New Canaan Baptist Church. Since joining New Canaan Mr. Green has been actively involved with five ministries; the RJL Youth Choir, the Junior Male Chorus, the Usher Board, the Pulpit Nurses, and the anniversary Committee.

Mr. Green credits Rev. Richard J. Lawson, who has taught him the meaning of respect, leadership, devotion, pride, and most of all how to be a young man of God. Mr. Green believes that a man's steps are ordered by God.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. Green for his contribution to his church and community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderful young man.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL NYE

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my good friend Michael Nye on the occasion on his retirement from California Federation of Teachers (CFT). For the past 12 years Michael has served as CFT's Secretary-Treasurer—handling all the financial matters, promoting its growth, implementing agency fees, working with independent unions gathering their support and representing CFT at political, labor and community events. Michael is a well-respected and admired man of integrity, honesty and dedication. I have had the pleasure of working with Michael for many years and know firsthand of his outstanding accomplishments and tireless dedication on behalf of teachers and organized labor.

Born in Chicago, Michael first learned about the labor movement from his relatives who were involved in the teachers and the musicians unions. He moved with his family to California, where he studied political science, history and philosophy at San Diego State University. While attending the University, he worked as an instructional aide in the San Diego Unified School District. He continued his studies at Fresno State, earning a secondary Teaching Credential in American Government. There he received a grant from the Model United Nations of the Far West to be the Registrar of the International Court of Justice. Michael taught at Lincoln High School in the San Jose United School District while studying to complete his Masters degree in political science at the Cal State University at Hayward.

Michael also taught Labor Studies at numerous Bay Area Community Colleges including San Jose City College, West Valley College, San Francisco City College and Merritt College in Oakland. And he taught Labor Studies and Political Science at San Francisco State University.

Michael's personal experience in the labor movement began at the early age of 24 when he was elected Vice President of the San

Jose Federation of Teachers, AFT Local 957. Shortly thereafter he became its President. Two years later, he served as Vice President of CFT and was elected Business Manager of the Central Council of Santa Clara at the young age of 31 years.

Michael left the Bay Area 11 years ago to become the Executive Director of the Western Region of the Jewish Labor Committee in Los Angeles. In 1994, Michael was asked to accept the position of Secretary Treasurer of CFT, completing the circle in the teacher union movement started 25 years earlier. Currently Michael serves as President of the Western Region of the Jewish Labor Committee, and also serves as a board member of the United Labor Bank, a unionized and union owned bank.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Michael Nye for his lifetime of service to students, teachers and the labor movement.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE GARAWAY GOLF TEAM FOR WINNING THE DIVISION III STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, the Garaway Golf Team has displayed dedication to the sport of golf; and Whereas, the Garaway Golf Team have been supportive of their teammates; and Whereas, the Garaway Golf Team has broadened their abilities and skills in the sport of golf; and

Whereas, the Garaway Golf Team always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the greens; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate the Garaway Golf Team on winning the Division III State Golf Tournament. We recognize the tremendous hard work they have demonstrated during the 2007 golf season.

A TRIBUTE TO YVONNE GRAHAM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor our Brooklyn Deputy Borough President Yvonne J. Graham. Yvonne was born and raised in Jamaica, West Indies. She moved to New York in 1979. Yvonne has a Bachelor's Degree in Health Administration and Community Health from St. Joseph's College and a Master's Degree in Public Health from Hunter College. She also completed the Executive Program in Business Administration at Columbia University School of Business and more recently, an Honorary Doctorate of Law Degree that was conferred on her by her alma mater St. Joseph's College. Yvonne, also a registered nurse, has worked in the emergency room of Brookdale Hospital.

Yvonne has been a pioneer and a champion in the area of public health for more than 20

years. Before accepting her post as Brooklyn's Deputy Borough President, Yvonne founded and was Executive Director of the Caribbean Women's Health Association which provides comprehensive, culturally-sensitive health care, immigration, and social support services to diverse communities. Her vision was critical to the 2005 founding of Brooklyn's first Center on Health Disparities which is working to reduce cardiovascular disease, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, infant mortality, asthma, and diabetes among minority communities. The center is an innovative partnership with the Borough President's Office, SUNY Downstate Medical Center and the Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health.

Yvonne has led the effort to increase the number of women in leadership positions in government, business, and industry by spearheading the Women's Leadership Initiative. This is a partnership between academic institutions, government agencies, community-based organizations, and the private sector that brings women together for dialogue and networking.

Yvonne was instrumental in the co-naming of Flatbush's Nostrand Avenue in honor of Haitian revolutionary hero Toussaint L'Ouverture. She served on the Mayor's Committee on Immigration; the New York City HIV Planning Council; and the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women.

Yvonne has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors for her achievements in community service, including YWCA's Women of Distinction Award; National Association of Black Social Workers' Public Citizen of the Year Award; the Marcus Garvey Medal of Honor; and the Frederick Douglass Medal of Honor just to name a few.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Brooklyn Deputy Borough President Yvonne Graham for her many accomplishments and all of her efforts to ensure that our most vulnerable citizens have access to healthcare.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Yvonne J. Graham.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. BILLY C. HINES, PROFESSOR—ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today and ask my Colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to Professor Billy C. Hines, one of Elizabeth City State University's most accomplished Professors.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Hines is now in his 33rd year as Professor of Voice, Director of Choral Activities and Artist-In-Residence at Elizabeth City State University. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education from Stillman College and a Masters of Arts and Masters of Education degree in Music and Music Education from Teacher's College at Columbia University. Further, he holds a Certificate in Managing the Arts from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Professor Hines has propelled the Elizabeth City State University Choir to a world renowned status. The University Choir, acclaimed as an "incredible group of voices,"

performs annually on tour throughout the United States, Europe and Africa and on campus. In May, 2005 Professor Hines arranged for the choir to travel to Nigeria, West Africa for a 15-day tour of seven cities. Its eclectic musical taste and resplendent audience appeal thrilled the standing-room only audiences everywhere they performed.

Madam Speaker, also in 2005, I am proud to announce that the University Choir was featured at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference Gospel Extravaganza under the inspiring directorship of Professor Hines. The performance was amazingly captivating.

In 1985, Professor Hines took advantage of an opportunity for his Choir to tour the Grand Bahamas Islands. Enthusiastic audiences received them everywhere they sang. In 1980, Governor James B. Hunt invited the University Choir to perform for his historic second consecutive inauguration as Governor of North Carolina.

Madam Speaker, although Professor Hines is a native of Alabama, North Carolina has adopted him as their own. He is an accomplished baritone soloist, a skilled adjudicator, clinician, and conductor. In past years he has conducted the Wayne County North Carolina School Spring Music Festival, the Junior High Honors Chorus as well as the Senior High Women's Chorus at the Summer Music Camp of the University of Wisconsin. Professor Hines has left lasting impressions with his outstanding performances with the North Carolina Junior High All-State Chorus, and with his contribution to the Edgecombe County Choral Festival.

Locally, Professor Hines has directed the Evelyn A. Johnson Community Singers for the past 25 years. The Singers are especially known for their annual rendering of Handel's Messiah, a free performance held for the public at various sites. For over 10 years Professor Hines has been invited to conduct a week-long workshop and concert of the Interstate Church Musicians and Choir Guild. Over 80 church musicians from throughout the Roanoke-Chowan area participate each year.

Madam Speaker, Professor Hines' accomplishments are limitless and I value this rare opportunity to share this abbreviated account with my Colleagues. On behalf of my Colleagues and the great state of North Carolina, I wish Professor Hines God's blessings as he continues to share his extraordinary talents with our great Nation.

A TRIBUTE TO POLICE OFFICER
ANTHONY SAUNDERS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Officer Anthony Saunders of the 79th Precinct. Officer Saunders was born in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn and is the second of 4 children. Officer Saunders has been married for 13 years to his wife Michelle, and from that union they have 3 beautiful children.

Officer Saunders was appointed to the New York City Police Department on July 5, 1989. He was assigned to the field training unit in

South East Queens where he performed foot patrol duties within the confines of the 100th, 101st, 105th, 106th, and 113th Precincts. In October of 1991, he was transferred to the 45th Precinct in the Bronx where he served as a patrolman on the midnight shift for approximately 2 years with "above standards" evaluations. In 1993, Officer Saunders was transferred back home to the 79th Precinct where he has performed numerous duties to include the Conditions Unit, the Grand Larceny Auto Unit, the Domestic Violence Unit, and the Street Narcotics and Anti-Crime Units.

After 12 years on patrol in the heart of Bedford Stuyvesant, Officer Saunders was assigned to the Community Affairs Unit and for the past 3 years his experience and expertise has resulted in improving community relations by helping to encourage and foster a strong partnership between the community and the 79th Precinct. Officer Saunders collaborates with local officials; community-based organizations, schools, and houses of worship in Bedford Stuyvesant. He plays an active role in organizing parades, demonstrations, rallies, and various community events.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to recognize that Officer Saunders has been instrumental in closing the gap between the community and the New York City Police Department.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this outstanding officer of the New York City Police Department.

A TRIBUTE TO AARON S. BELL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Aaron S. Bell, a recent high-school graduate, and role model. He graduated from Springfield Gardens High School in Springfield Gardens, Queens, New York in 2006, with honors. He was on the Principal's Honor Roll for 4 consecutive years. He was also selected for the Principal's Leadership Program. Mr. Bell served as a Peer-Regents Tutor. He was a 2-year 3rd Grade Teacher for a day, under the Junior Achievement Program, and was a major contributor to the formation of the SAT Prep and Peer Math Clubs. He considers his greatest high school achievement was graduating with a "Regents-Advanced Diploma."

Mr. Bell was born on December 22, 1988 at Long Island Hospital College in Brooklyn, New York, to proud parents, Steven and Robin Bell. He is their third child, and the sibling of Steven L. Bell Jr., and Shakima M. Bell.

As of December 22nd, Mr. Bell will hit the 19-year mark, as a member of the New Canaan Baptist Church. He has served on the Junior Usher Board/Usher Board #2, and as a student of the Christian Education Ministry. He has also been a faithful member of the Sunbeam, Junior Male Chorus, RJL Youth choirs, and the Youth Praise Team.

Mr. Bell has participated in and remains active as a member of the All Stars Project, Inc. He began as a student in the Development School for Youth sector, a corporate business training program, which provides corporate hands-on-training by business executives and professionals.

After graduating in the Fall of 2005, from the Development School for Youth, Mr. Bell became an active volunteer and participant in many corporate-sponsored luncheons, galas and conferences, as a host to some of New York's Top Corporation executives, such as Ernst & Young, Credit Suisse, Merrill Lynch, Winston & Strawn LLP, Latham & Watkins LLP, and many others. Currently, he is a new staff member of the Productions Team for the All Stars Project, Inc.'s Talent Show Network.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Aaron S. Bell for his achievement as a young scholar, and dedicated community youth leader.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this very industrious individual.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. W. RUTH
WHITNEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the very distinguished, Dr. W. Ruth Whitney. Dr. Whitney is married to the Reverend Dr. Curtis L. Whitney, and is the First Lady of the Mt. Sinai Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York. She is also a proud mother and grandmother.

Dr. Whitney received her Bachelor of Science Degree from the New York State University at Old Westbury. She earned her Masters Degree in Social Work from Adelphi University, located in Garden City, Long Island.

Dr. Whitney is an active community servant in the borough of Brooklyn, where she resides. Dr. Whitney's outstanding leadership propelled her to the forefront of movements that promote positive change and development to enhance the quality of life in many diverse communities throughout the Nation. New York Newsday named her "Outstanding Personality of the Week" in 1992. She received the "Woman of Distinction Award", presented to her by New York State Senator Velmanette Montgomery in 2001. She establishes programs for Christian education and Christian leadership throughout the Nation.

Dr. Whitney is the Assistant Dean of the Interdenominational Ministers' Wives & Ministers' Widows; Vice-President (Kings County), Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows Fellowship of Eastern Baptist Association; First Vice President, New York State Interdenominational Ministers' Wives & Ministers' Widows; Vice President, Empire State Convention Ministers' Wives & Ministers' Widows; Member of the National Black Alcoholism Council, Inc.; Member of Lefferts Gardens Civic Association of Brooklyn, NY, Inc; and Co-Instructor for class: "Marriage & Family for Couples", at the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education. Dr. Whitney is also Dean, Empire Baptist State Convention Ministers' Wives & Ministers' Widows; President, Eastern Baptist Association of Ministers' Wives & Widows, Fellowship of New York; President, Baptist Ministers' Wives & Ministers' Widows of Greater New York & Vicinity; Assistant Secretary, Empire State Convention Ministers' Wives & Ministers' Widows; Founder, New Members Ministry, Mt. Sinai Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY;

and Advisory Council Member, New York Organ Donor Network—Saving lives through organ and tissue donation.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the impressive achievements of Dr. Whitney for her contribution to the betterment of communities throughout Brooklyn, New York.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the very distinguished Dr. W. Ruth Whitney.

TRIBUTE TO CUB SCOUT PACK 203

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cub Scout Pack 203 of Clear Lake and Ventura in North Central Iowa on their 50th Anniversary.

Chartered in December of 1955, Cub Scout Pack 203 provides teaching, service and leadership opportunities to approximately 50 boys in first through fifth grades. Aided by the participation of their families and adult leaders, each member practices Cub Scouting's Twelve Core Values that include citizenship, compassion, cooperation, courage, faith, health and fitness, honesty, perseverance, positive attitude, resourcefulness, respect and responsibility. Pack 203 participates in many service activities such as Earth Day events, collecting uniforms and supplies for stricken Gulf Coast scout units, and sending care packages to our military overseas.

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is "to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law." For 50 years Pack 203 has instilled these respected values in young men, preparing them to be productive and honorable citizens in their communities.

I congratulate Cub Scout Pack 203 of Clear Lake and Ventura, Iowa, on this historic anniversary. It is an honor to represent each member of this remarkable Pack in Congress, and I wish them continued success.

TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. SAMMIE DAVIS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable gentleman, Reverend Dr. Sammie Davis in the celebration of his 80th birthday on November 27, 2007.

A pastor for over 52 years and the only preacher at Fellowship Baptist Church for 44 years, Reverend Davis is a true pillar of the Dallas community.

A graduate of Dallas Independent School District, Reverend Davis continued to pursue his educational goals, attending Bishop College, Southern Methodist University, UCLA and earning a doctorate from the University of Aswan in Egypt.

Extending his love of family beyond his own fifteen children, Reverend Davis has worked

tirelessly to improve the lives of children and youth in his community. Whether shelter, food or simple guidance was needed, Reverend Davis could always be counted on to extend a helping hand. As Founder and Executive Director of Fellowship War on Drugs Program in Dallas, he also fought to redirect the lives of those affected by drug abuse in southern Dallas.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Reverend Sammie Davis on reaching the milestone year of 80, and I wish him many future years of happiness and enjoyment in his personal and professional endeavors.

FAIR TAXES FOR SENIORS!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention H.R. 4254, the Fair Taxes for Seniors Act, a bill I have just introduced that would provide financial relief to our Nation's senior citizens.

The Fair Taxes for Seniors Act would provide a one-time increase in the capital gains tax exemption on the sale of a home for citizens who are 50 or older. While home prices have decreased from their all-time high, the tax burden is still there for senior citizens who have lived in their home for many years. Passing this bill would give many seniors the additional money they need for nursing home care, medical costs, and other retirement expenses.

The current capital gains tax exemption works well for younger people who often move from job to job, selling their homes. The current exemption works well for people who live in areas where housing prices are below average. But it is not working for individuals who have lived in one home for 20 to 50 years and have a capital gain that is much larger than the present exemption. In other words, it is not working for seniors who live in areas with higher housing prices who end up paying thousands in capital gains taxes.

My bill would provide a one-time increase to \$500,000 for a single person and \$1 million for a couple in the amount that can be excluded from the sale of a principal residence for taxpayers who have reached the age of 50. Let us help our citizens over age 50 who have lived in one home for many years and who need the proceeds from the sale of their home for retirement and health care costs. An added benefit is that family members and perhaps the government will be relieved of the burden of caring for these individuals as they grow older.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

WORLD AIDS DAY

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 19th Anniversary of World AIDS Day.

This past Friday, December 1, was World AIDS Day, a day where we pause to once

again focus our attention on this deadly disease that has proved to be so devastating to so many throughout the world. Since the first diagnosis in 1981, approximately 65 million people have been infected with the HIV virus, while more than 25 million people have died of AIDS worldwide. In 2007 alone, The United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) estimated that AIDS had killed 2.1 million people while 33.2 million people were living with HIV worldwide and of whom 2.5 million people were newly infected.

An estimated one million people are currently living with HIV in the United States, with approximately 40,000 new infections occurring each year—70 percent of these new infections occur in men and 30 percent occur in women. African Americans make up only 13 percent of the population, yet now account for 54 percent of all AIDS cases in the United States. Additionally, 64 percent of the new infections in women occur in African American women.

In order to combat this problem we must begin to educate people across this country about avoiding risky behavior and the importance of protecting yourself when engaging in sexual intercourse, but first you must know your status.

We must pay particular attention to the education of our young people with regard to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Since the introduction of abstinence-only education 10 years ago, sexually transmitted disease rates are up. I would like to applaud the Governor of my home State of Ohio, Ted Strickland's efforts to implement a comprehensive sex education program in our schools that focuses on both abstinence and contraception. It is my hope that this is something that is implemented on a national level.

Last year I issued a challenge to all Americans, and specifically African American women who are the fastest growing segment of the population to be infected by HIV/AIDS, to get tested and know their status. Today I reissue that challenge, and I will keep pressing this issue until we are able to find a cure and bring an end to this disease.

COMMEMORATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate two centuries of service by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), for NOAA's continued efforts to improve our understanding of the environment and for its dedicated stewardship of the Nation's coast, waterways and wildlife.

Originally founded in 1807 to survey the early American coast, the predecessor of today's NOAA marked the creation of the Nation's first science agency. From its humble beginnings, NOAA's contribution to American history evolved to reflect the needs and expectations of a growing Nation. Even a brief selection from the catalogue of NOAA's contribution to the American experience offers an illustration of the impressive contribution NOAA and its predecessor agencies have made to American history over the years.

In 1911, after decades of offshore, open water sealing by other nations decimated the herd, the North Pacific Fur Seal Treaty was signed—the first international treaty for wildlife conservation. The agreement gave NOAA's predecessor responsibility for protecting wildlife along the American coast and was the forerunner and inspiration for laws such as the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.

After World War II, what would become NOAA joined the U.S. in another great leap forward when the technological, geographic, and social landscape of NOAA's two legacy agencies—the Survey of the Coast and the Weather Bureau—were merged and their resources combined to usher in a new era of weather observations from space with the launch of the first meteorological satellite.

And, NOAA grew yet again in response to the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill in 1989. The spill led to the passage of the Oil Pollution Control Act of 1990 which strengthened and enhanced NOAA's capacity to respond to and help reduce impacts from hazardous material spills.

For 200 years, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and its predecessor agencies have served this great Nation by providing research to improve our understanding of the oceans and the atmosphere and has faithfully fulfilled its mandate as a steward of the environment. I am happy to add my voice to those of my colleagues as we honor today this important American institution.

TRIBUTE TO DUANE HAHN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Duane Hahn of Eldora, Iowa, on being named a runner-up in the 2007 Excellence in Education Award, given by the Iowa State Education Association.

The Excellence in Education Award is a special recognition that was created as a way to honor many of the excellent teachers across Iowa that go the extra mile to make a difference in students' lives. Duane was nominated for this honor by several of his students and colleagues.

For the past 40 years Duane has given his time and talents to the Eldora school district, reaching out to touch the lives of many students. During his time at South Hardin High School he has instructed students in chemistry, physics, and physical science, serving as a personal motivator that inspires students to excel in the classroom and beyond. He has helped many a student through a difficult time by saying, "I promise I won't give up on you, if you don't give up on me." Often mentoring fellow teachers as well, Duane is truly an outstanding role model that has earned great respect and admiration from all who know him.

I am honored to represent Duane in Congress, and I wish him the very best as he continues to serve as a mentor and role model to the students and teachers of South Hardin High School.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR R.C. HICKMAN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I recognize the life and passing of R.C. Hickman of Oak Cliff, Texas. Mr. Hickman was a very prominent and well-respected photographer not only in the State of Texas, but also throughout the entire nation. As his family mourns their loss, I would like to pay tribute to the life and accomplishments of R.C. Hickman before this body of Congress and this nation.

Born in Mineola, Texas and raised in the Dallas, Hickman's exemplary photography career started during the World War II. After the war's end, he continued his professional career as a photographer at the Dallas Star Post and freelance photographer for Jet magazine.

His dreams led him to capture the likenesses of entertainers such as Sammy Davis Jr., activists Thurgood Marshall and Dr. King, and countless others whose work for civil rights. His professionalism and keen eye ignited his passion for recognizable images. Several of his photos are now housed at the Center for American History at the University of Texas at Austin. Mr. Hickman later compiled many of his pictures in the book *Behold the People: R.C. Hickman's Photographs of Black Dallas, 1949–1961*.

Madam Speaker, it is in earnest respect that I recognize the memory of Mr. R.C. Hickman before this body of Congress and this nation for the irreplaceable contributions he made to the community of Dallas and the State of Texas. My sincere condolences go out to his nieces Patricia Tuck, Royetta Tuck Potts of Los Angeles and Nelwyn Vaughn of Mineola. While his loss will be deeply felt, the memory of his kindness and the recollection of his good deeds will transcend into future generations.

SUPPORT PARALYMPICS

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I would like to call your attention to H.R. 4255, the "United States Olympic Committee (USOC) Paralympic Program Act of 2007."

This legislation authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide grants to the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) to plan, develop, manage, and implement a Paralympic Program for disabled veterans and servicemembers.

Paralympics, sports for the physically disabled, traces its origins to World War II when the paralympic movement began to offer sports as a form of rehabilitation for the injured veterans of that era. Paralympic activity has a proven track record in terms of rehabilitation and improving the quality of life for the physically disabled. Paralympics also improves the mobility, vitality, physical, psychological, and social well-being of disabled veterans while reducing their incidence of secondary medical conditions.

It is particularly important that the thousands of injured military and veterans returning to the United States after service in Iraq and Afghanistan be afforded the chance to participate in such paralympic activities as part of their rehabilitation, both while on active duty and when, as veterans, they return to their home communities.

The United States Olympic Committee is particularly well-suited to plan and institute a Paralympic Program for our military and veterans. In 1998, Congress passed the "Olympic and Amateur Sports Act Amendments," which charged the USOC with the responsibility of encouraging and assisting amateur athletic programs and competitions for athletes with disabilities. Since that time, the USOC has led a resurgence in paralympic sports in the United States.

When our injured servicemembers began returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, the USOC began offering Paralympic Military Sports Camps at its training facilities, including at the USOC training facility in my district in Chula Vista, California. To date, over 1,200 injured veterans have been introduced to paralympic sports as a result of these training camps. The USOC has spent millions of dollars on this military and veteran Paralympics Program and will continue to support these efforts. However, with so many injured military and veterans, much more needs to be done.

The paralympic sports camps of the USOC last for a week at a time. The USOC is also beginning an effort to bring paralympic sports to various locations throughout the country. It is imperative that we expand these efforts so that once our injured military personnel graduate to veteran status, they will be able to participate year round in their own communities in paralympic activities as part of their continuing rehabilitation.

Under this program, the USOC will develop community-based Paralympic Programs that provide services and activities for disabled veterans and servicemembers. These activities will include instruction and competition in paralympic sports, training and technical assistance and other program-specific medical and personal care support activities necessary to create a network of community-based Paralympic Programs easily accessible to our injured veterans.

This legislation also requires the Secretary to conduct an outreach program to inform all disabled veterans about the existence of the Paralympic Program and to encourage their participation. Although non-veterans may participate in these community-based programs, the funds authorized by this legislation can only be used to support activities and services for disabled veterans and servicemembers.

The purpose of this program is to enhance the rehabilitation, readiness, and quality of life of severely injured servicemembers and veterans. There is great urgency to implement this expanded program as quickly as possible in order to motivate, teach, and inspire veterans at all stages of recovery and to return them to a lifestyle full of activity, accomplishment, and enjoyment in their own communities.

I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation. We owe it to those who have given their all for their country.

WORLD AIDS DAY 2007

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, on December 1, 2007, we commemorated World AIDS Day, and reflected both on the lives lost so far and on our continued moral obligation to ensure we provide necessary treatment and research to assist those living with HIV/AIDS.

As a senior member of the Health Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, I have fought hard for increased federal dollars for New York to treat more than 111,000 New Yorkers living with HIV/AIDS today. New York remains the epicenter of the AIDS epidemic in our nation with nearly 18 percent of all HIV/AIDS cases in the United States.

Last year, during the reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act, which addresses the unmet primary care and health support needs of low income people living with HIV/AIDS, I led the charge to stave off the Administration's proposal to dramatically shift needed funding away from New York. This year, we were able to achieve record increases in funding nationwide for the Ryan White CARE Act in the Labor-Health and Human Service appropriations bill. Sadly, President Bush vetoed this critical legislation on November 13, 2007.

I have also introduced the bi-partisan Early Treatment for HIV Act with Speaker Pelosi and Representative Ros-Lehtinen, which reforms rules in the Medicaid program which mandates that people be disabled by AIDS before receiving treatment. This rule is inconsistent with national health guidelines for those with HIV, which recommends early and aggressive treatment for those with HIV to keep their illnesses from progressing to AIDS. My bill will allow states to treat low-income individuals with HIV under the Medicaid program. HIV no longer has to be a death sentence with the new medical treatments available today.

Globally, we must also continue to be mindful of the 33 million individuals currently living with HIV/AIDS. Over 5,700 people die each day from AIDS related illnesses and the United States must provide adequate resources to help stop the global scourge of AIDS. As you may know, Tuberculosis is the leading infectious killer among adults with HIV/AIDS, as it preys upon these individuals with weakened immune systems. I am pleased to report that my bill, H.R. 1567, the Stop Tuberculosis Now Act recently passed the House of Representatives overwhelmingly and is currently awaiting action by the U.S. Senate. Worldwide, tuberculosis kills 1.6 million adults and 1.4 million children each year. My bill will go a long way towards providing resources to those with both HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis.

I am proud that the AIDS Institute has decided to honor me with their "HIV/AIDS Care & Treatment Award for 2007". I am grateful for the award but am equally aware that World AIDS Day must prompt us to examine what progress we have made and reevaluate what additional steps should be taken to combat this deadly epidemic.

Madam Speaker, working together we can address both prevention and early treatment options, and hopefully one day find a cure for AIDS.

IN MEMORY OF SECOND
LIEUTENANT STUART LILES**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Second Lieutenant Stuart Liles of Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas, who died on November 13, 2007, at the age of 26, while serving our country in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Second Lieutenant Stuart Liles graduated from Fountain Lake High School before attending the University of Central Arkansas. While in high school and college, his deep sense of unity and teamwork flourished when he joined the ROTC program which was the inspiration for his service in the Army National Guard upon graduation.

Second Lieutenant Liles served our country in the U.S. Military in the National Guard, the Army Reserves, and as an active duty soldier in the U.S. Army. His proud and honorable service will forever be remembered by our nation. He served in the 122d Aviation Support Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. His bravery, courage and dedication to the U.S. Army are exemplified by his service and leadership roles within his platoon, where he served as Platoon Leader on active duty.

Second Lieutenant Liles was a dedicated family man who adored his family dearly, and he was also a man of devout faith. As a deeply spiritual man, Liles was often proud to have the opportunity to combine two of his passions—his faith and his love of acting. In the community of Hot Springs, he will always be remembered for his portrayal of Jesus in the outdoor musical passion play, "The Witness."

Second Lieutenant Stuart Liles will be remembered as a hero, a son, a father and a husband. My deepest condolences go out to his wife Aubre Paschal Liles of Little Rock; his daughter Aurora Elisabeth Liles of Little Rock; his mother Kristen Liles Quintanella of Hot Springs; his sister Erin Long of Saint Mary's, Georgia; his brother Sean Liles of Fayetteville; and to his numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. He will be missed by his family, his community, his country and all those who knew him and called him a friend. I honor Second Lieutenant Stuart Liles for his bravery, his patriotism and his service and I will continue to keep his family in my deepest thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO HENRY HYDE

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of a great man, and a dedicated member of this body. Henry Hyde was an esteemed colleague, a remarkable orator, and a true statesman. He was uniquely able to graciously disagree with other Members at a fundamental level without disrespect or contempt. In this sense, he was an example to all of us, Republican or Democrat, conservative

or liberal. When he spoke on this Floor, he spoke deliberately and intelligently, crafting numerous policy speeches that will endure well into the future.

Henry was a devoted advocate for the unborn, and he never wavered on this point. For that, I am personally grateful. Much has been said on this point, but no one can say it better than Henry himself.

As he stated during a critical debate on this Floor, "One of the great errors of modern politics is our foolish attempt to separate our private consciences from our public acts, and it cannot be done. At the end of the 20th century, is the crowning achievement of our democracy to treat the weak, the powerless, the unwanted, as things? To be disposed of? If so, we have not elevated justice; we have disgraced it".

Henry Hyde was not a perfect man, and like the rest of us, I imagine he was sometimes inclined to become angry and unpleasant when confronted with the frustrating issues that make our days here in Congress so interesting. But I always respected Henry for maintaining an honorable demeanor, even in the midst of emotionally charged disagreements. In the spirit of our country's great orators, he knew that we don't promote a real debate with nastiness and sound bites, but with thoughtful consideration and a deep understanding of the issues at hand.

My heart goes out to his family during this difficult time. Surely they can appreciate the impact that Henry Hyde made on this chamber. I'm honored to have an opportunity to express my gratitude to a man whose public service changed this country for the better.

TRIBUTE ON THE BIRTH OF
GRANT EVAN WILSON**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Dave and Rochelle Wilson of Lexington, South Carolina, on the birth of their new baby boy. Grant Evan Wilson was born on October 25, 2007 weighing 7 pounds and 8 ounces. Grant joins seven siblings—Bryce, Carly, Makenna, Caleb, Alyssa, Bennett and Owen. He has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future.

Dave and Rochelle are longtime friends, and I am so excited for this new addition to their family. On behalf of my wife Roxanne, and our entire family, we want to wish the Wilson family all the best.

TRIBUTE TO NORWALK, IOWA
HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY CHEER-
LEADERS**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Norwalk, Iowa, High School varsity cheerleaders on

placing first in their team's first national competition.

On October 27, 2007, the Norwalk cheerleaders competed against 13 teams and emerged as champions at an official National Cheerleaders Association event at St. Francis High School in St. Louis, Missouri. The Norwalk cheerleading coach, Melissa Priest, and the parents of the 16 members of this cheerleading squad are also to be congratulated for this great accomplishment. They have instilled the importance and value of hard work, dedication, persistence and teamwork in these students, which has helped them to perform with the spirit and camaraderie required of champions.

I commend each of the Norwalk High School cheerleaders and their coach on this great accomplishment in representing their school and community. I consider it an honor to represent these cheerleaders and their coach in Congress, and I wish them continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO TRUE PURPOSE
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to True Purpose Missionary Baptist Church, located in the 30th district of Texas, that has faithfully served the community for over 50 years.

Founded in 1854 by Reverend Alphonso Lopez, the church originally formed as small prayer groups meeting in the homes of its members. From this humble beginning, True Purpose Missionary Church remodeled and transformed a local tavern into a sanctuary that continues to house the congregation today. From here, they have worked tirelessly to transform the neighborhood and serve the people of the Dallas metroplex.

In particular, two of the first leaders of the church, Pastor A.L. Wilburn and Pastor James D. Parker, deserve a special honor for their service.

Pastor A.L. Wilburn served as the first pastor of True Purpose Missionary Baptist Church until his death in 1985. His leadership during his tenure brought great hope and inspiration to his congregation. A member of the Baptist General Convention, Baptist Ministers Union, Interdenominational Ministers Alliance and the Rising Star District Association, he is best remembered for his kind spirit and love of church, family and friends.

Following in his predecessor's footsteps, Pastor James D. Parker served as a beacon of strength and guidance for the church. Internationally recognized as a motivational speaker, he traveled throughout the world sharing his expertise and assisting numerous organizations across the globe. Pastor Parker was a graduate of Southern Methodist University and Dallas Theological Seminary. He served the church faithfully until his death in 1989.

Thanks to the strong leadership of these two men, True Purpose Missionary Baptist Church today continues to provide a nurturing environment for its members and visitors. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join

me in honoring True Purpose Missionary Baptist Church for their contributions to the Dallas community.

ROBERT CARLSON RESOLUTION

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a House Resolution recognizing commending the accomplishments of an outstanding Californian, Mr. Robert Carlson, upon his pending retirement from the board of administration of the California Public Employees Retirement System more commonly known as CalPERS.

Robert Carlson's distinguished career on the CalPERS board began in 1971 and will end on December 18th of this year after 36 years of devotion to the active and retired CalPERS members and their families.

Madam Speaker, on December 18th, the California Public Employees Retirement System, CalPERS, will honor Bob Carlson at its Sacramento headquarters. The event promises to be one filled with affection as CalPERS honors one of its longest serving and most beloved board of administration members.

Madam Speaker, allow me to briefly cite some of the many accomplishments and contributions of Mr. Carlson during his 36 years on the board of administration. In 1968, just prior to his initial election to the board, Mr. Carlson served as the president of the California State Employees Association, CSEA, and the first CSEA president to be elected to a second term in that position. Mr. Carlson has and continues to be a member of the California State Bar Association since 1952 after receiving his juris doctorate from the University of California, Hastings College of Law, where he was named Hastings Law School Alumnus of the Year in 1997.

During his outstanding career with CalPERS, Mr. Carlson has served 9 terms as the president of the board of administration and 5 years as its vice president. Furthermore, he has served as a member of every CalPERS board committee, where he has been considered one of the board's strongest advocates for retirees.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Carlson also led a successful effort in the California Assembly to gain passage of legislation giving CalPERS the authority to build its headquarters in Sacramento. He has been a strong voice in support of sound corporate governance principles and a champion for transparency, accountability and fulfilling CalPERS fiduciary responsibilities.

Mr. Carlson's hard work and contributions to CalPERS, its members and our State as a whole over the course of his career place him among the most distinguished citizens of our State. It is with a sense of appreciation and respect that I offer this resolution and request this body to consider it and pass it as expeditiously as possible.

Madam Speaker, I thank you and Members of this House for your attention to this important matter.

CONGRATULATING THE F.J. REITZ
HIGH SCHOOL PANTHERS 2007 4A
FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

HON. BRAD ELLSWORTH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coach John Hart and the F.J. Reitz High School Panthers on their 2007 4A Division Indiana State football championship. The title is the first state championship for the Panthers since 1971 and was a fitting conclusion to an outstanding season.

The Panthers defeated the Lowell High School Red Devils in the championship game by a score of 33-14 and capped off an impressive 15-0 season. Their victory is the culmination of years of hard work, dedication and sacrifice. The team and coaching staff have demonstrated outstanding talent and an unwavering commitment to achieving their goals.

The Reitz Panthers are shining examples of the idea that success in life comes to those who are willing to set goals and work hard to achieve them. They are an inspiration to me and everyone in the Evansville community who has followed their progress this season.

Congratulations again to the F.J. Reitz Panthers Football Team for an outstanding season. Go Panthers!

PASSING OF HENRY HYDE

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, Henry Hyde was a giant in Congress. His articulateness, diplomacy and knowledge was evident to all. He sat on the Judiciary Committee from when he was first elected in 1975 and served 6 years as the Committee's Chairman. It was a privilege to serve with him.

Vivid memories of my years in Congress center on comments Henry Hyde made on and off the floor. He was a person of conviction, but never a partisan for partisan's sake. He was one of those rare individuals that when he spoke on the House floor, was listened to with respect because of his way with words and his sincerity.

We will miss him but he will be in our thoughts and prayers.

MORTGAGE REFORM AND ANTI-
PREDATORY LENDING ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 15, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3915) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to reform consumer mortgage practices and provide accountability for such practices, to establish licensing and registration requirements for residential mortgage originators, to provide

certain minimum standards for consumer mortgage loans, and for other purposes.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chairman, the time has come and gone for Congress to act to address the scourge of predatory lending. In the wake of the subprime mortgage crisis that is rocking the economy, an estimated two million Americans will face home foreclosures in the next two and a half years. These problems have caused the housing market to fall into its worst slump in 16 years.

The bill we are considering today, H.R. 3915, the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act, takes important steps to ensure that the mortgage industry follows sound principles of consumer protection. Many of the foreclosures we have seen are the result of predatory practices, including "redlining," poorly worded or confusing contracts, the steering of consumers to more expensive loan products, and mandating unfavorable terms that trap consumers into loans they cannot afford.

The bill before us today begins to turn the tide. It includes provisions to ensure that borrowers can repay the loans they are sold and receive clear disclosures about the loans they are offered, and that mortgage bankers and bank loan officers are all licensed or registered. All of these consumer protections will improve the options available to Illinois residents who seek a mortgage from a licensed mortgage lender.

However, while this bill represents a good start, I am concerned about Title II of the bill, which contains a state-law preemption provision that could weaken the value of the protections I've listed. I strongly believe that the laws that the Congress pass should be a floor, not a ceiling; we should not punish a State that may have stronger laws than what the

Congress is able to craft. Illinois' licensed mortgage brokers and loan originators meet some of the Nation's highest standards, and it is time for Congress to make sure all mortgage lenders meet standards at least as high—not to punish my home state.

The preemption provision eliminates the ability of a homeowner to raise state-law claims against the securitizer—or actual owner—of the loan. If homeowners cannot sue the owners of the loans, in many cases they will have no remedy available to them at all: in many cases the original issuers of the mortgage have sold the loan, gone bankrupt, or have gone out of business. While the owners of the loans have the assets to provide relief to many victimized consumers, by preempting state law this bill ties the hands of consumers to take action against them.

I am also concerned that this language does little to address the higher rates caused by so-called "yield spread premiums," which might more accurately be referred to as kickbacks. This practice, which allows the broker to charge a more expensive rate to the consumer than the broker paid for the loan and pocket the difference, has encouraged brokers to sell the most costly loans possible. This loophole has no doubt contributed to record numbers of foreclosures we have been seeing, and it should be closed.

The mortgage crisis has been building and we must do everything we can to address its devastating impact, especially felt in states like Illinois, Ohio, and Michigan. I am glad that Chairman FRANK has indicated that he will work to improve the bill, and I look forward to working with him to correct the bill's deficiencies and enact the strongest possible protections for homeowners and tenants who are facing financial calamity.

TRIBUTE TO ANNA L. ORR

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Anna L. Orr on the recent celebration of her 100th birthday on December 1, 2007.

Anna was born on December 1, 1907, in Wright County, Iowa. On July 17, 1927, she married Enos Orr. Anna and Enos had 10 children and have 132 direct descendants. Anna has traveled extensively during her lifetime and currently lives in her own home in Eagle Grove, Iowa. She loves going for walks to the local nursing home to visit with residents, fishing, and working in her garden.

There have been many changes that have occurred during the past one hundred years. Since Anna's birth we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television and the Internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet Communism and the birth of new democracies. Anna has lived through 18 U.S. Presidents and 24 Governors of Iowa and, in her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in sending warm wishes to Anna on the milestone of her 100th birthday. I am extremely honored to represent her in Congress, and I wish her happiness and health for many more years to come.